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Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, NOVEMBER 13-15, 2015 | High 12°C/Low 6°C Clouds, showers

LIVIN' THE POUTINE DREAM

HALIFAX FESTIVAL ABOUT MORE THAN FRIES, CHEESE AND GRAVY
metroNEWS

Mark Marchment, executive chef at the Westin Nova Scotia, shows off some of his huge selection of poutine at Roy's Lounge on Thursday. The hotel is one of the participants in city's first Poutine Festival. JEFF HARPER/METRO

SEXUAL ASSAULT

Guilty cabbie may get job back

Zane Woodford
Metro | Halifax

A taxi driver who groped a female passenger's buttocks and "vaginal area" could be allowed to drive a cab in Halifax again.

Ahror Mamadiev, 43, was found guilty of the August 2014 sexual assault, and given a conditional discharge at his sentencing in September. At that time, the city permanently revoked his taxi licence.

But at a meeting Thursday, the city's appeals standing committee partially allowed Mamadiev's lawyer's argument his licence should be reinstated. The committee voted to uphold the revocation of his licence for one year, allowing Mamadiev to reapply for one on Sept. 3, 2016, one year after the licence was originally revoked.

"It's a partial win," said Mamadiev's lawyer, Ian Joyce.

More coverage, page 6

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Nova Scotians rally against funding cuts to CNIB program

HEALTH

Community Services grant reduced by 30% in April 2015



Rebecca Dingwell
For Metro | Halifax

Pat Gates' life was changed the day she was diagnosed with glaucoma.

"I lived in a one-bedroom apartment in downtown Halifax," Gates said at a press conference Thursday. "That apartment became my world."

Gates already lost vision in her left eye due to diabetic retinopathy, but could function in her life and job as she did before. In 2000, Gates was told she had acute angle glaucoma in her right eye.

"I had to go on long term disability (leave) from my employment," said Gates. "I'm a single person, so I had no family support."

Gates was one of four people speaking out against provincial cuts to the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB).

Thanks to the organization, Gates said, she has her independence back.

"I learned the proper techniques — how to navigate with a weight cane," she explained to attendees at Province House.



CNIB members and their supporters rally outside of the Nova Scotia legislature on Thursday.

JEFF HARPER/METRO

Pamela Gow-Boyd, CNIB's executive director, said the services which help Nova Scotians such as Gates are in jeopardy.

"We are the only provider of visual rehabilitation therapy for adults in Nova Scotia," said Gow-Boyd.

Vision rehabilitation therapy



Why are blind Nova Scotians treated differently?

Pamela Gow-Boyd

is the training which helps individuals with vision loss to safely get around their community and live on their own.

According to the CNIB, the grant it receives from the Department of Community Services was cut by 30 per cent in April 2015.

+ DEPARTMENT REVIEW

Nova Scotia's health minister says his department will review a funding cut for a program provided to 13,000 Nova Scotians by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

Leo Glavine says his department will also take over responsibility from the Department of Community Services, which formerly admin-

istered the funding, and will be assessing what's needed to provide sustainable funding in the next fiscal year.

Pamela Gow-Boyd, the CNIB's regional vice-president, met with Glavine Thursday and emerged to say she was encouraged by what she was told and will meet with the minister again later this month.

"That means Nova Scotians with vision loss are relying on a charity's ability to raise dollars in order to receive essential rehabilitation," said Gow-Boyd.

She pointed out other services, including physiotherapy or hearing loss rehabilitation, are provided within the health-care system.

"Why are blind Nova Scotians treated differently?"

Due to lack of money, CNIB has already cut positions, including two positions in public education and vision loss prevention. In addition, volunteers are doing a large amount of administrative support.

Gow-Boyd said the institution is doing its best to prevent the elimination of rehabilitation specialists, but more cuts are imminent.

"That means the loss of a service that's not offered anywhere else in Nova Scotia," she said.

\$487,947

According to a media release, CNIB is calling on the province to provide nearly half a million dollars in immediate funding.

\$1 million

In addition to the request for immediate funding, CNIB is also looking for \$1,002,972 in sustainable funding.

After the conference, a Rally for Equality was held in downtown Halifax. Protesters marched from Grand Parade Square to Province House in to participate in the rally.



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AQUACULTURE

Provincial rules need tightening: Group

A law research group says the Nova Scotia government's new aquaculture regulations fall far short of what was recommended in a sweeping independent report.

East Coast Environmental Law says its analysis of the regulatory framework introduced last month shows an improvement from previous rules, but the non-profit group says big gaps remain when it comes to openness and transparency. In particular, the group says the regulations do not include provisions concerning the proactive release of information to the public.

That was a key recommenda-

tion in a report released last December by Dalhousie University law professors Meinhard Doelle and Bill Lahey.

Provincial Fisheries Minister Keith Colwell challenged the group's assertion, saying the government has committed to releasing all information about aquaculture sites so long as it isn't business information that could affect competitiveness.

Colwell also rejected the group's claim that the new rules don't cover the designation of certain at-risk areas as unsuitable for aquaculture. The minister says the regulations remain a "live document" subject to changes. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NATIONAL PARK

Small-scale moose cull sparks protest

The head of an organization that represents about 4,000 anglers and hunters in Nova Scotia says a Parks Canada plan to kill about 40 moose in a small section of Cape Breton Highlands National Park is badly flawed.

Ian Avery, president of the Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers and Hunters, says the experimental cull is a bad idea because the science behind it doesn't add up.

Parks Canada says the

960-square-kilometre park has too many moose, which are eating so many young trees that the park's boreal forests are being transformed into grasslands that don't support certain species.

But before it organizes a full-scale cull, the federal agency says it wants to measure the impact of a small-scale hunt on the vegetation in a 20-square-kilometre area near North Mountain as part of a four-year study.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Teachers, province reach tentative agreement

The Nova Scotia government has reached a tentative contract with the province's 9,000 public school teachers.

The government issued a statement Thursday saying the Nova Scotia Teachers Union plans to present details of the

agreement to its members on Nov. 17-18.

The most recent contract with the teachers expired July 31. The government says details of the deal will not be released until the agreement is voted on by union members. A vote is scheduled for Dec. 1. THE CANADIAN PRESS



POLITICS LEGISLATURE OPENS Premier Stephen McNeil talks with reporters at Province House in downtown Halifax on Thursday, the first day of the Nova Scotia legislature's fall sitting. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Board awards over \$1 billion in licences

OIL EXPLORATION

Regulators gave 7 parcels to giants like Statoil, Exxon

Offshore regulators in Atlantic Canada awarded oil exploration licences to several industry giants Thursday, totalling more than \$1.2 billion in Newfoundland and Labrador alone.

The Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board said it had awarded seven parcels worth a combined \$1,204,953,713.

Norwegian-based Statoil is a partner in five of the seven bids

and was also awarded a solo bid worth \$423 million.

Other companies to be involved in the potential exploration include BG International, BP Canada Energy Group, Exxon Mobil, Chevron and China's state energy company Nexen Energy.

Premier Paul Davis, who is in the midst of an election campaign, said the record level of interest was the "direct result" of seismic mapping carried out by the province and Nalcor Energy.

"That work indicated that there are potentially 12 billion barrels of oil in this general

area of our offshore, so this new international attention is no surprise," Davis said in a statement released through the Progressive Conservative Party.

Two deepwater parcels were also awarded by Nova Scotia's offshore regulator, although they were decidedly more modest by comparison, coming in at a value of \$82 million.

The parcels, worth about \$76 million and \$5.8 million respectively, went to Statoil Canada Ltd.

Nova Scotia Energy Minister Michel Samson said he was pleased by the development.

"When you keep in mind

where the price of oil is today ... to see these types of investments being made and expressions of interest in our offshore, I think it's a great sign of confidence."

Samson said more work would have to be done, including environmental assessments before Statoil would get final approval for drilling.

If approval is granted by federal and Nova Scotia officials, the regulatory board said it would issue two exploration licences on Jan. 15.

Last month, Shell Canada Ltd., received approval to begin exploratory drilling in the Shelburne Basin offshore site, about 250 kilometres off the southwestern coast of Nova Scotia.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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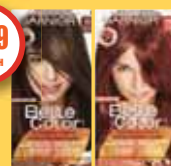
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Taxi driver guilty of assault asks city for licence back

APPEAL

Ahror Mamadiev groped female passenger



Zane Woodford
Metro | Halifax

A typically routine Halifax committee meeting was anything but on Thursday, as a taxi driver found guilty of sexual assault appealed the revocation of his taxi licence.

The committee debated whether Ahror Mamadiev should be allowed to drive a cab in Halifax after he was found guilty of groping a female passenger outside her home in August 2014, and then given a conditional discharge in September.

After clarifying the meaning of a conditional discharge, three of the four councillors sitting on the committee seemed poised to allow the appeal, with Brad Johns arguing Mamadiev's licence should remain revoked.

"Ultimately, we have a role to make sure that the citizens that we represent feel that when they get into a taxi they are safe and secure," he said.

Around that time, four members of Anonymous who'd been protesting outside city hall came into council chambers.

The motion was put on the floor, but just before the vote, a woman in the gallery stood



Ahror Mamadiev waits to have his case heard at Halifax City Hall on Thursday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

up, asking if she could make a submission to the committee on behalf of the public.

"This individual is not a party to this appeal," argued Mamadiev's lawyer, Ian Joyce, before being interrupted.

"The public is a party to the appeal, actually," shouted one of the members of Anonymous.

Fearing the precedent it might set, the committee decided not to allow the woman to speak.

"If you were here on time, perhaps, and if you were repre-

sented the victim in this particular case, I think there would be merit, but I would say no," said committee chair Coun. Steve Adams.

During a discussion about the ramifications of the ruling, the same Anonymous protester spoke up again.

"It's rape," she shouted before being escorted from council chambers.

During his submissions, Joyce characterized the sexual assault as a "low level assault."

Joyce argued his client was an "extremely low" risk to reoffend, and pointed to his conditional discharge — 12 months' probation, 50 hours' community service, and a spot on the registered sex offenders list — as evidence that the court agreed.

+ CONFLICT

Whitman recuses himself from appeals meeting

There are usually five councillors on the appeals standing committee, but newly minted deputy mayor Matt Whitman recused himself from the discussion, citing a conflict of interest based on comments he made to Metro on Monday.

He told Metro after the meeting Thursday that

Mamadiev's lawyer had contacted the city and suggested his comments

showed he had already made up his mind on the vote, and that his participation would be a conflict of interest. "So gladly, I'll avoid being a part of that," he said after the meeting.

When asked his feelings on the decision, Whitman would only say, "I trust my colleagues." METRO



HEALTH AUTHORITY

Rights complaint dismissed



Rebecca Dingwell
For Metro | Halifax

The chair of an independent human rights board of inquiry has dismissed the complaint by Tony Smith against Capital District Health Authority (CDHA).

Smith, a former employee of CDHA, filed a human rights complaint in February 2012.

He cited discrimination based



Tony Smith
METRO FILE

on race, physical disability and retaliation going back to 2005.

In January of this year, Smith told reporters he was the

only black counsellor when he was hired on to the addictions program in 1990. He claimed he encountered racist comments at that time. In addition, Smith said he didn't receive the same training or opportunities as other employees.

In his decision, board chair Donald Murray states that the health authority's decision to move Smith's job to a new hub-style location was not related to race or colour, nor rooted in retaliation for prior complaints filed against his employer.

"It is my view that Mr. Smith and the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission have not proven a discriminatory act or behaviour against Mr. Smith by Capital Health within the required time frame," Murray stated.

Smith unsuccessfully filed a previous human rights complaint against the Choices program of the Department of Community Services in 1994.

"We have a role to make sure that the citizens that we represent feel that when they get into a taxi they are safe and secure."

Coun. Brad Johns

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A closeup of one of the Westin Nova Scotia's poutine offerings, which can be gobbled up during Halifax Poutine Fest until Nov. 22. JEFF HARPER/METRO

City jumps on the gravy train

FOOD

First Halifax Poutine Fest cooks up new takes on dish



Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

Grab your passport, Haligonians, and get ready to fry.

From pubs to fine dining, 37 restaurants across the municipality are welcoming cheese and gravy fans for the first Halifax Poutine Fest.

The 11-day event began Thursday and runs through Nov. 22.

"Poutine is just all the rage," said Simon McLinden, outlet supervisor for The Westin Nova Scotian and home to Roy's Lounge, a participant in the event with traditional, maple bacon, buffalo chicken, veggie, chili, and Maritimer styles.

McLinden said it was a no-

brainer to have Roy's join in when they heard about the festival, since the lounge recently expanded its menu to "upscale casual bar dining" with lots of poutine and burgers.

Roy's and the Westin see lots of tourists, McLinden said, who always ask for poutine when they arrive.

"They come here for cold and poutine," McLinden said with a laugh.

While poutine, that glorious Canadian combination of fries, gravy and cheese curds, has often been in the late-night or junk-food category, McLinden said it's been rightfully popping up on restaurant menus with gourmet twists.

"It seems silly not to have poutine," he said.

Festival organizer Amy Langdon agrees.

Langdon started up the city's first Donair Crawl back in August, and said the success of that event coupled with inspiration from Burger Week led to the idea of people collecting stamps from each eatery in



WHERE TO GRAB POUTINE

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The Foggy Goggle, Clay West Bar & Grill, Cheachie's, Kempster's Cookhouse & Eatery

Bedford: BOOMBurger, True North Diner, Brewster's Bar & Grill, Sunnyside Restaurant, Esquire Restaurant, Riverside Pub, The Chicken-burger

Dartmouth: Cheese Curds, Off the Grill

Eastern Passage: Boon-docks

As well: All Battered Fish locations in Halifax, Bedford, Dartmouth, Lower Sackville, Tantallon and Fall River. Visit hfxpoutinefest.com for details.

a poutine "passport," where four stamps lets you enter a prize draw.

Besides offering visitors a chance to sample unique poutine from local restaurants, Langdon said the festival includes part of the proceeds from each dish or a lump sum from the businesses going towards the Christmas Daddies charity.

Public interest has already been spiked with poutine options like donair, cheesecake or duck confit, Langdon said.

Having dining places such as The Five Fishermen, McKelvies and the Harbourstone Sea Grill & Pour House could also connect a wider audience to the

festival, Langdon said.

"You think of poutine in a paper plate but it can be classed up, it can be a great dish and I think that makes it even more fun," Langdon said.

"It's pretty close to perfect."

The building blocks of classic poutine include fries topped with cheese curds and gravy.

RENE JOHNSTON/
TORSTAR NEWS
SERVICE



It's delicious, it's Canadian — why not?

Halifax Poutine Fest organizer Amy Langdon

MACDONALD BRIDGE

The Big Lift means weekend closure

The Macdonald Bridge will be closed again this weekend as a result of The Big Lift project.

Halifax Harbour Bridges sent a release to advise the public of the bridge closure on Thursday. They say the Macdonald Bridge will close to traffic Friday at 7 p.m. and reopen at 5:30 a.m. the following Monday.

The closure is needed to replace the third of 46 deck segments, said the release.

The Big Lift began earlier this year. The project involves replacing the road deck, floor

beams, stiffening trusses and suspender ropes on the suspended spans of the bridge.

Construction has led to bridge closures — mostly at night and on weekends — to the frustration of some drivers.

Pedestrian and bike lanes have been closed since the end of June and are not scheduled to re-open until December 2016. The HHB shuttle service was put in place to transport cyclists and pedestrians across the bridge.

METRO

2017

The Big Lift is expected to be completed in Fall 2017.



Workers place a new section of the deck for the Macdonald Bridge spanning the harbour in Halifax. THE CANADIAN PRESS

FALL RIVER

Chainsaw and tools stolen from garage

Police in Fall River are investigating after a chainsaw and multiple tools were stolen from a garage this week.

Halifax RCMP are asking for the public's help after they say a residential garage was broken into Tuesday on Canterbury Lane.

According to a release, the RCMP believe the suspect or suspects entered the detached garage and stole a number of carpentry and garden tools sometime between midnight

TIPS

Investigators are asking anyone with information to contact 902-244-7208, or any RCMP office, Halifax Regional Police, or send an anonymous tip to Crime Stoppers

and 2 p.m. They also stole a chainsaw and a compressor. TC MEDIA

'It's a very amazing feeling': Gerry Dee

TELEVISION

Comedian says CBS to make U.S. version of sitcom Mr. D



Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

Halifax will likely be getting an American makeover, thanks to an odd teacher.

Mr. D, the popular CBC sitcom created by and starring comedian Gerry Dee, recently caught the eye of Will Arnett, who wanted to make a U.S. version.

"That was the exciting part, getting the initial call from them," Dee said Thursday over the phone from Calgary.

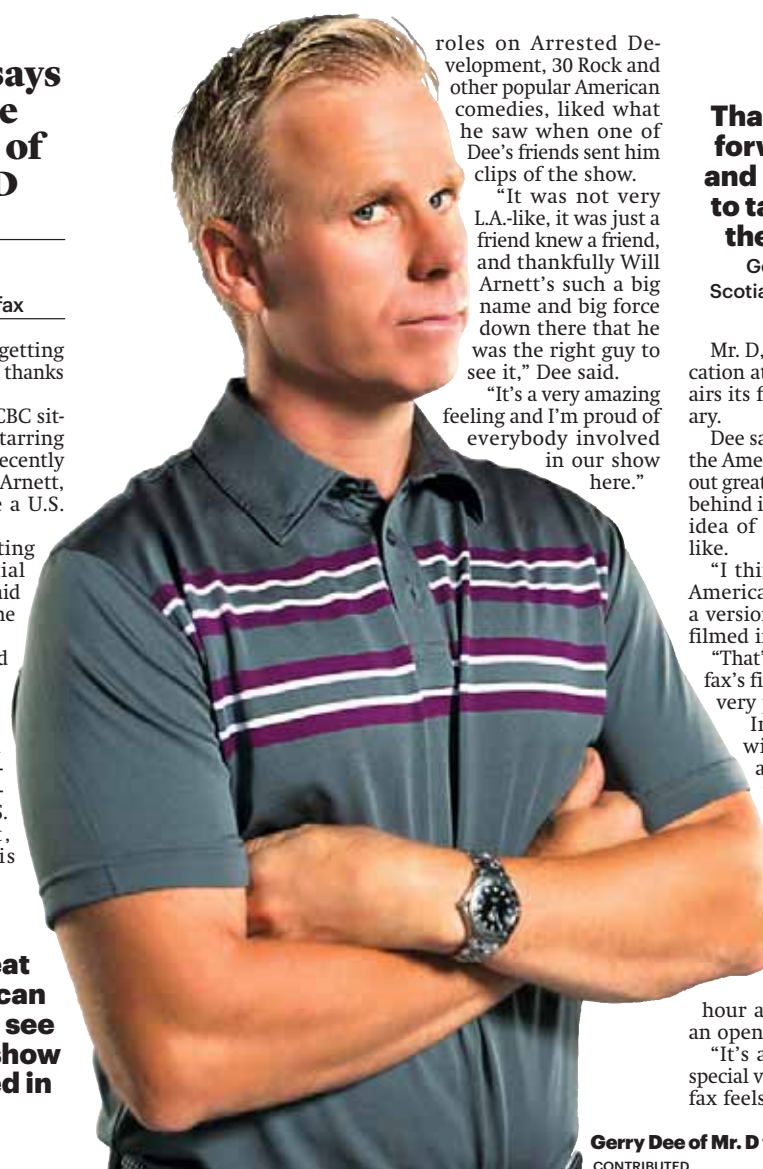
Although Dee said things are still in the early stages and he's not sure what his role would be in the United States version, the format has been sold to Arnett to produce for CBS.

He said Arnett, best known for his



I think it's great that an American audience may see a version of a show that was filmed in Halifax.

Gerry Dee



Gerry Dee of Mr. D fame. CONTRIBUTED

roles on Arrested Development, 30 Rock and other popular American comedies, liked what he saw when one of Dee's friends sent him clips of the show.

"It was not very L.A.-like, it was just a friend knew a friend, and thankfully Will Arnett's such a big name and big force down there that he was the right guy to see it," Dee said.

"It's a very amazing feeling and I'm proud of everybody involved in our show here."



That's a big step forward for me, and I just wanted to take things to the next level.

Gerry Dee on his Scotiabank Centre show

Mr. D, shot in Halifax on location at Citadel High School, airs its fifth season this January.

Dee said he's confident that the American version will turn out great because of the people behind it, but doesn't have an idea of what it should look like.

"I think it's great that an American audience may see a version of a show that was filmed in Halifax," Dee said.

"That's something that Halifax's film industry should be very proud of."

In another first, Dee will be performing an arena show at the Scotiabank Centre on May 27, 2016, in what he said will be one of his longest performances ever.

Instead of an hour set, Dee said he'll be able to do "a bit of everything" in a roughly hour and a half show with an opener.

"It's a special night, it's a special venue," Dee said. "Halifax feels like home."

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Christopher Falconer was given a sentence of life in prison after being convicted for murder in January. His lawyer contended Thursday that the jury may not have understood whether evidence had to be accepted as fact. METRO FILE

'Significant error of law'

FALCONER TRIAL

Poor direction given to jury swayed result, defence argues

The lawyer for a Nova Scotia man appealing his murder conviction for the death of a woman whose bound body was found in a shallow grave says the jury received confused instructions on how to interpret key evidence.

Lee Seshagiri argued Thursday in the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal that the jury may not have understood whether evidence had to be accepted as fact in the trial of Christopher Alexander Falconer for the murder of 19-year-old Amber Kirwan.

"These are repeated and multiple signals to the jury that there were limitations on their function of weighing evidence," he said. "That is a significant error of law."

Falconer was given an automatic sentence of life in prison with no parole eligibility for 25 years after he was convicted by a jury in January. He had pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder in the death of Kirwan, who vanished after leaving a pool hall in New Glasgow on Oct. 9, 2011.

Her naked, bound remains were discovered lying face down in a clandestine grave about a month later near a rural road in nearby Heathbell.

In arguing the jury wasn't properly instructed, Seshagiri gave the example of expert evidence on the amount of cocaine found in Kirwan's body.

+ DECISION

Chief Justice Michael MacDonald reserved judgment after hearing the arguments.

He noted that the defence lawyer in the case, Mike Taylor, had questioned the figures given by an expert toxicologist.

Seshagiri said that if defence counsel was trying to undermine the credibility of findings in a report, jurors shouldn't have been left with the impression the expert's report was to be accepted as fact.

The appellant's lawyer also argued there was a wide swath of evidence the jury could question in the case.

He said that Falconer's DNA

wasn't found in the camper where the Crown alleged Kirwan was confined before she was murdered.

During the original trial, the court heard that Falconer had sent a text message to his step-sister Alice Meier, saying he was at the camper the night Kirwan disappeared, and that he dropped off some items there.

"There is a strange aspect of attending a property that's not yours and you're not in control of, presumably with a victim, knowing the occupants could return at any moment," said Seshagiri.

Crown prosecutor Tim O'Leary said the jury had viewed the texts and were capable of understanding what was factual in them, and what aspects they could interpret.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Public Meetings

HRSB Electoral District Boundary Review 2015

The Education Act requires that all school boards in Nova Scotia conduct a review of the number and boundaries of polling districts for the elected members of the school board on a regular basis.

The final decision on the number of polling districts and boundaries is made by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSUARB) and is binding on the school board.

A substantial review of the electoral boundaries of the Halifax Regional School Board (HRSB) was conducted in 2012. This review led to the alignment of the HRSB electoral districts with the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) electoral districts.

The description of the current boundaries can be found on the HRSB website at: www.hrsb.ca/news/2015/10/09/review-electoral-boundaries.

HRM applied for minor amendments to its electoral districts which were approved by an Order of the NSUARB on June 24, 2015. HRSB proposes to apply to the NSUARB to maintain the current number of electoral districts and to reflect the minor changes approved for the HRM electoral districts.

This notice serves to advise residents that the HRSB will undertake a public consultation process as part of its 2015 Electoral District Boundary review.

The HRSB is seeking input related to the number of polling districts, district boundaries, as well as considering changes in the names of its electoral districts. For more information on the HRSB proposal, visit the HRSB website at: www.hrsb.ca/news/2015/10/09/review-electoral-boundaries.

Written (mail and email) submissions will be received by the HRSB Corporate Secretary until November 20, 2015. Submissions received will be considered during the electoral boundary review process.

Submissions can be sent to:

Natascha Joncas
33 Spectacle Lake Drive
Dartmouth, NS B3B 1X7
Email: njoncas@hrsbc.ca

The HRSB will also hold the following public meetings at which time in person submissions may be made:

November 17, 2015
Central Spryfield Elem.
Library, 7-9 pm

November 19, 2015
Kingswood Elem.
Cafeteria, 7-9 pm



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Irving Shipbuilding pleads not guilty after workplace injury

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Worker suffered brain trauma, fractured skull

A lawyer for Irving Shipbuilding entered a not guilty plea Thursday to charges under Nova Scotia's Occupational Health and Safety Act after a worker suffered a serious head injury at the Halifax Shipyard in 2014.

Mick Ryan entered the plea during a brief hearing in provincial court, where the case will return Dec. 8 to discuss trial dates.

Ryan said outside court that he expects a trial would take up to six weeks because of the amount of disclosure in the complicated case, though the Crown said they would need much less time.

"Four to five days is what they're suggesting it will take them to present their case and in my opinion, it's going to take a lot longer than that," he said.

"You haven't seen the disclosure package we've received from the Crown. It's about eight inches thick."

An information to obtain a search warrant filed with the court says the charges relate to work that was being done on Canadian Coast Guard patrol vessels on Jan. 3, 2014.

An occupational health and safety officer alleges in the



Irving Shipbuilding entered a not-guilty plea to health-and-safety charges after a worker suffered a serious injury at the Halifax Shipyard in 2014. METRO FILE

document that a wire rope loop attached to a ship's cradle broke as it was being pulled by a winch, striking a worker employed by Irving Equipment Ltd. in the head.

The charges allege that Irving Shipbuilding did not ensure the operator of a machine or tool was competent and that it failed to take every reasonable precaution to ensure the

health and safety of people at or near the workplace.

The ship was being moved along a series of tracks at the shipyard during a launch attempt when the loop broke.

The document says the worker suffered a fractured skull and brain injury.

It outlines a series of events that led to the accident in a procedure that had been com-

pleted on six ships previously.

"However on this attempt, the cradle failed to move, resulting in a static line pull," the officer alleges in the document.

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SHELBURNE

Amalgamation plan defunct after vote

The proposed amalgamation of the municipality and town of Shelburne appears to be dead.

In a 5-2 vote this week, the municipality accepted a staff report on Nov. 9 that recommended halting the process until "the financial risks are mitigated."

Municipal Warden Roger Taylor said information contained within recently completed infrastructure and financial studies carried out as a part of the amalgamation process gave the municipality reason to pause.

The next step — to present those studies to the public — will not happen if the decision is ratified at the regular municipal council

meeting later this month.

Taylor said the municipality was in a strong financial position, able to put away \$500,000 annually into its reserves. He said, based on projections, that a new amalgamated unit would run deficits however.

Shelburne Mayor Karen Mattatall said she was extremely disappointed by the municipality's decision.

While the town does plan to use the information gathered in the infrastructure studies in its future budgeting plans, Mattatall was frustrated that several years of effort towards amalgamation could be ended before presenting the studies to the public.

TC MEDIA

ABERDEEN

Staffing problems remain for mental-health unit

Efforts to recruit psychiatrist nurses and doctors to the Aberdeen Hospital's mental health unit have been unsuccessful so far, says the Nova Scotia Health Authority.

"Although recruitment efforts to fill nursing and psychiatry vacancies continue, but we have not been successful," said Everton MacLean from the NSHA.

In a release, he stated the Aberdeen Hospital's mental health unit in New Glasgow closed in early August because of the unavailability of sufficient nursing and psychiatry staff which made it impossible to provide safe, effective inpatient care.

TC MEDIA

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Taavel's partner welcomes plea

REACTION

Trial avoided over death of LGBTQ activist



Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

Raymond Taavel's partner says while he's relieved the man charged in Taavel's death has pleaded guilty, the hospital and health department whose care he was under have "blood on their hands."

Andre Noel Denny, who was diagnosed with schizophrenia as a teenager, pleaded guilty to manslaughter on Tuesday in Nova Scotia Supreme Court in Taavel's 2012 death.

"We are relieved that we will not need to be subjected to a protracted, painful and ugly trial, just to end up to this same place," Taavel's part-

ner Darren Lewis told Metro in an email on Wednesday evening.

Taavel, 49, was known as a tireless advocate for LGBTQ rights in Halifax, and hundreds attended vigils for him after his death.

According to the agreed statement of facts, Denny left the East Coast Forensic Hospital (ECFH) in Dartmouth without permission on April 16, 2012, and got into an argument with Taavel and another man more than six hours later outside of Menz Bar on Gottingen Street.

The statement says Denny's mental state was impaired by psychosis and intoxication caused by consuming alcohol and crack cocaine, and he went on to beat Taavel repeatedly.

Lewis said the fact that Denny has accepted responsibility for Taavel's death will help him and Taavel's family to move on.

Lewis said Denny was granted an unescorted pass in April, when he was not yet entitled to community access privileges, so he could go for a smoke break and be in compliance with the smoking ban on hospital grounds.

"Let's not forget how this all began," Lewis said.

"Although Mr. Denny is responsible for Raymond's killing, we still very much feel that the ECFH's leadership, and by extension (the Nova Scotia Health Authority) and the Department of Health and Wellness, have Raymond's blood on their hands," Lewis said.

Denny, who is from Membertou, N.S., was scheduled to stand trial on the original second-degree murder charge in September but the case was delayed when he fired his lawyer.

Denny's sentencing hearing is scheduled to start Jan. 25. WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS



SPORT THE GOOD OLD HOCKEY GAME A billboard worker puts up an advertisement for Kidsport along Barrington Street in Halifax on Thursday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

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STELLARTON TRUCK CATCHES FIRE A pickup truck went up in flames on Weir Avenue in Stellarton on Thursday morning. Fire chief Dwight Campbell said the driver said he was just going down the street when the vehicle quit on him and then caught fire. The driver was the only occupant of the vehicle and escaped safely. TC MEDIA

Drive-thru up for sale

STEVE-O-RENO'S

Buyer has to move building at own expense



Rebecca Dingwell
For Metro | Halifax

If your dream home is a small, seafoam-green shed, you may be in luck. But there's a catch.

Halifax coffee shop Steve-O-Reno's Cappuccino announced last month that their drive-thru location would be closing as a result of construction planned on the Robie Street lot where the building's been located for two decades.

The small business where drivers could pick up their java in a hurry is now up for sale on Kijiji. But buyers would have to move the structure at their own expense.

"We were just going to get it demolished when they take

down the old Piercey's building," said Melissa Armbruster, daughter of Steve-O-Reno's owner Steve Armbruster. "(But) we realized there might be someone who might want to take the building and do something with it."

Armbruster said Thursday they have had a lot of people contacting them with questions, but nobody has committed to buying the former drive-thru building. "The issue is definitely that there is a deadline. We have about a week until they're going to start demolishing," she explained.

With heating, electrical hook-ups and plumbing, Armbruster said the building could be used for anything from a food business to a home, for those are into the tiny living trend.

"I know tiny homes are things that people are building these days," she said. "It definitely has a lot of potential."

According to the Kijiji ad, they will take the best offer from whoever can arrange to have the building quickly moved.



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Where food, drink meet politics

Some of Ottawa's many pubs and restaurants are frequented by the likes of federal party leaders and their caucuses — and you may be surprised at how much information is shared over a glass of chardonnay.



1 He knows just how you like your martini — Xavier McNeill mixes a martini behind the bar at Zoe's Lounge inside the Fairmont Chateau Laurier.



2 An elegant pour for those on the floor — Bartender Elizabeth Gould pours a glass of Sancerre Daniel Chotard inside Luxe Bistro in the ByWard Market.



3 Getting to the pint — From left: Ian McKierahan, Paul Sanderson, and Rob MacDonald wind down with some pints at Sir John A Pub on Elgin Street.



POLITICAL BUZZ

Jessica Murphy

One of the first signs of a power change in political Ottawa is the sight of the Liberals creeping back into D'Arcy McGee's.

The venerable Sparks Street bar had been home to a political tussle when Stephen Harper's Conservatives came to power in 2006 and, early on, ousted the Liberals from the favourite watering hole, says photographer Mitch Raphael, who has covered the Ottawa social scene for years.

But nine years later, with Justin Trudeau's Liberals back in power, D'Arcy McGee's is looking more and more like a resurgent Grit hangout in the post-federal election power shift.

Ottawa's 5-to-7 after-work hours are an "incredible time for information sharing," say Greg MacEachern, vice-president of government relations at Enviroconics.

"Despite all our mobile devices, a lot of information in

Ottawa is transmitted over a glass of wine and an hors d'oeuvre," he said.

Photographer Raphael says there's a definite drinking culture on the Hill.

"There's a reason they all have (drivers)," he said.

There are a few factors that go into making a spot a regular hangout for political power players and their hangers on — chief among them proximity to Parliament Hill.

"The top spots are — you

can almost draw a straight line — Metropolitan, D'Arcy's, Hy's and Brixton's," MacEachern said.

With the historic Hy's Steakhouse closing shop next year, the up-and-coming Bier Markt is still central in the city's political topography.

There are several factors that influence where politicians hang out. Beyond location, service counts. Having a favourite drink appear magically on the bar at a given establishment is an experience that has won over the hearts and the wallets of many a political staffers.

Then there's partisanship

— a Liberal pub, an NDP bar, a Tory brasserie — with political tribes staking claims to specific spots even though the businesses themselves welcome all customers.

Summa Strategies consultant Angela Christiano also expects an uptick in official receptions in early 2016 as stakeholder groups try to get their issues on the Liberal government's radar and build relationships with new MPs and their staff in a social setting.

"It gives that casual opportunity to have an off-the-cuff conversation," she said.

With upwards of three events a night being host-

+ THE LUXE

Another bar to look out for

The night before he was sworn in as prime minister, Trudeau, his top aides and the entire soon-to-be Liberal cabinet gathered at the Luxe bistro in the ByWard Market for a private party.

ed on and around the Hill at peak times in the political calendar, it makes for a busy reception circuit.

"We call it speed dating for MPs," said MacEachern.

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Get Some Joy From The World



Be nice, cabinet told

POLITICS

Trudeau tells ministers to co-operate with everyone

Working well with others — including people in the media — is now officially part of the job description for Canadian cabinet ministers.

The “mandate letters” given to every minister are setting a new bar for co-operation in Justin Trudeau’s government, according to one letter obtained in advance of the expected public release.

In fact, if the sheer word volume in these letters is any indication, co-operation seems to be the top item on the to-do list of Trudeau’s team.

Ministers are being warned that they will be judged by how well they treat a whole raft of people — everyone from business to labour, stakeholders and citizens, and yes, the opposition and the media too.

“Members of the Parliamentary Press Gallery, indeed all journalists in Canada and abroad, are professionals who, by asking ne-

cessary questions, contribute in an important way to the democratic process. Your professionalism and engagement with them is essential,” the letter states.

This is, we’ll remember, a slightly more formal way of saying what Trudeau told a crowd of people booing reporters during the last week of the election campaign. “Hey! We have respect for journalists in this country,” Trudeau chided unruly Liberals at a campaign stop in Montreal. “They ask tough questions and they’re supposed to. OK?”

One group of people is singled out as well in the mandate letters for special treatment from government. “No relationship is more important to me and to Canada than the one with Indigenous Peoples,” the letter states.

The notable feature of these mandate letters, as mentioned, is the amount of words devoted to culture change of the kinder, gentler sort. “Open by default” is an operating principle.

One senior Liberal said this week that the Trudeau team needs to hammer home the instructions about co-operation because they represent a massive shakeup to the status quo, or at



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau talks to media after holding a meeting with cabinet. FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

least the operating culture of the past decade or so in Ottawa. “A lot of people just aren’t used to this; it’s totally new,” the senior Liberal said.

Former prime minister Stephen Harper gave mandate letters to his ministers too and

asked for yearly updates on their priorities. But the letters were never made public, and it’s probably safe to bet that they didn’t give all these warnings on co-operation, especially not with the media.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

SYRIAN CRISIS

Refugees screened before, after arrival

Some security screening will be conducted on Canadian soil as the Liberals push to bring in 25,000 Syrian refugees by the end of the year, Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale says.

Goodale told reporters that security checks on the refugees will be conducted both before and after the refugees begin arriving in Canada.

25K

Number of Syrian refugees Canada plans to settle. Quebec will welcome 6,000 of those.

“It will be a combination of both,” Goodale said after a cabinet meeting Thursday.

Security concerns were among the chief reasons the previous Conservative government advocated for moving slower on

the refugee file — although Harper’s former chief of defence staff, Rick Hillier, suggested those were overblown.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

NDP entrusts long-time MPs with critic roles

Tom Mulcair will rely on veteran members of his team — like Nathan Cullen, critic for environment — to help the NDP flex its muscles in Parliament. Charlie Angus has been named critic for indigenous affairs, and B.C.’s Don Davies will focus on health.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Trudeau to see Queen

Thirty-eight years after his father caused an international sensation with a pirouette behind an oblivious Queen, Justin Trudeau is going to meet the monarch. The prime minister says he’s looking forward to meeting and speaking with the Queen on his way to Malta near the end of the month. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ORGANIZED CRIME

'Goodfellas' mob veteran is set free

An aging mobster who stayed mostly in the shadows for decades by adhering to the Mafia's strict code of silence was acquitted Thursday of charges he helped plan a legendary 1978 Lufthansa heist retold in the hit film "Goodfellas."

A federal jury reached the surprising verdict at a Brooklyn racketeering trial where it heard testimony that portrayed 80-year-old Vincent Asaro as a throwback to an era when New York's organized crime families comprised a secret society.

Asaro jumped up, pumped his fist and clapped after the

verdict. When he walked out of the courthouse, he threw his hands up in the air and hollered: "Free!"

"I was shocked, I was really shocked," Asaro said outside. "I've got two years in, and I'm dying to get home."

He said he would be headed home to have a good meal with his family.

"Right now I've been eating bologna sandwiches," he said.

Asaro said he believed jurors found him not guilty because the prosecution's case was "overkill."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Vincent Asaro leaves Brooklyn federal court Thursday after his surprise acquittal. BRYAN R. SMITH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Russia's torpedo video leak may have been no error

Details of a new Russian submarine-launched nuclear torpedo have been shown on state-controlled TV, a secret the Kremlin said shouldn't have been aired. Observers, however, saw it as a deliberate leak.

The airing raised suspicions it was done intention-

ally to scare the West. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Suicide bombers rock Beirut with double blast

Twin suicide bombings struck a Beirut suburb that's a stronghold of the Shiite group Hezbollah on Thursday, killing at least 43 people in the Lebanese capital. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



An Indian man wears a face mask to protect himself from smoke — and the build-up of toxic pollution — during Diwali celebrations, or the festival of lights, in New Delhi, the Indian capital Wednesday. TSERING TOPGYAL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

There's no smoke without fireworks

INDIA

New Delhi under a toxic haze after its festival of light

The fireworks have fizzled. The festival lights are coming down. What's left of the Hindu holiday of Diwali in the Indian capital — the world's most polluted — is a toxic haze that has residents gagging for oxygen.

Air pollution levels across New Delhi on Thursday, a day after the ancient festival of lights, were described as severe-to-critical, up to eight times higher than what India deems acceptable and 20 times what's recommended by the World Health Organization.

Such pollution happens every year, as offices and businesses shut down for India's biggest gift-giving holiday and many set off powerful rockets at all hours of the night.

A government health advis-

ory warned people to avoid all outdoor physical activity, citing a serious risk of respiratory effects following prolonged exposure to smoke-filled air.

Tourist Basil Antonius, visiting from the northern city of Chandigarh, said he had trouble breathing Wednesday as fireworks exploded overhead.

"Diwali is a lovely festival of," Antonius said. "But the fireworks cause pollution, which is adding to the pollution in Delhi."

Public alarm over rising pollution has seized the capital in

recent years, with newspapers carrying regular stories on levels of particulate matter called PM2.5 — small enough to penetrate deep into the lungs.

Last year, WHO named the Indian capital as the world's most polluted, with 12 other Indian cities ranking among the world's most polluted 20. Another study in February estimated 660 million Indians were losing three years of their lives due to exposure to air pollution across the country.

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metro NEWS | World

Weekend, November 13-15, 2015 **21**

EU's passport-free area under threat

EUROPE

Nations take action to slow huge influx of migrants

Passport-free travel in Europe is under threat as countries reintroduce border controls, toughen security and build fences in response to the biggest refugee emergency the continent has seen in decades.

The Schengen open-borders zone uniting 30 countries is a pinnacle of European achievement. It underpins the EU economy, allowing goods, services and people to cross frontiers without checks.

But Sweden says security at its borders cannot be assured and announced checks were resuming on Thursday, while tiny Slovenia has begun erecting a fence to stem the flow of people from Croatia, the second nation, after Hungary, to resort to such a measure.

These uncoordinated and unilateral actions in response to unpredictable movements of thousands of people have raised fresh doubts about



Slovenian soldiers set barbed wire fences on the Slovenian-Croatian border near Rakovec on Thursday. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

whether the passport-free area can survive the migrant challenge.

"Saving Schengen is a race

against time," EU Council President Donald Tusk warned on Thursday after a migration summit with European and African leaders in Malta.

He cited individual moves by Germany, Sweden, Slovenia and others in response to what they see as threats to their border security from the tens of thousands of migrants streaming in from Africa, the Middle

East and Asia.

"Without effective control of our external borders, Schengen will not survive," Tusk said.

The two-day summit was meant to focus on how to send back to Africa those who don't qualify for asylum and discourage others from attempting the risky journey across the seas in search of a better life.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BURUNDI

UN decries killings amid genocide fear

The UN Security Council unanimously approved a resolution Thursday condemning killings in Burundi and threatening sanctions, while international leaders urgently called for the government and opposition to meet amid fears the African nation is at risk of genocide.

Witnesses say the killings, torture and human rights violations are the result of a government crackdown on opposition members. Statements by Burundian officials last week echoed language used in the 1994 genocide in neighbouring Rwanda, where more than 800,000 ethnic Tutsis and Hutu moderates were slaughtered in a campaign orchestrated by Rwanda's Hutu-majority extremist government.

Like Rwanda, Burundi has a history of tensions between its Hutu and Tutsi ethnic groups. At least 240 people have been killed in Burundi since protests began in April against President Pierre Nkurunziza's



A Burundian soldier guards a street in the troubled nation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ultimately successful quest for a third term.

"We know how high the stakes are," Britain's UN Ambassador Matthew Rycroft said after the council vote. "We know that in the worst case what we're talking about is a possible genocide, and we know that we have to do everything we possibly can to prevent that." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Mister Ugly contest draws record number of entries

Zimbabwe's Mister Ugly William Masvinu has tough competition in this year's pageant due to a record number of entries.

For the first time since the competition began in 2011, organizers will hold preliminary rounds to whittle the number of hopefuls from 36 to 12 who will compete in the Nov. 20 finale.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lawmakers vote down pro-independence hopeful

The leader of a Catalan secessionist alliance vowing to break away from Spain by mid-2017 failed again Thursday to get the backing of regional lawmakers for his re-election as president. Artur Mas' candidacy was rejected by 73-62 in the Catalan parliament, with only his Together for Yes alliance supporting him.

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Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Lofven



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24 Weekend, November 13-15, 2015

World **metro** NEWS

Army reaches out to NLD

MYANMAR

Suu Kyi's opposition party nears majority

Myanmar's official vote count inched closer Thursday to confirming a parliamentary majority for Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi's opposition party, as the military establishment that has been her nemesis for decades appeared ready to toss in the towel.

While the army has not conceded defeat for the ruling pro-military Union Solidarity and Development Party, it has acknowledged the massive success of Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy in Sunday's election and pledged it will respect the final results. Those results seem virtually certain to allow the opposition to take over the government.

The office of army com-

mander Senior Gen. Min Aung Hlaing said the military will hold talks with Suu Kyi after the election results are complete. Suu Kyi issued an invitation on Wednesday for a meeting with the commander, along with President Thein Sein and House Speaker Shwe Mann.

Results issued so far by the Union Election Commission support unofficial numbers from the NLD and local media pointing to a landslide win for the pro-democracy crusader and a resounding rejection of military rule. While the opposition may soon have enough confirmed seats for a parliamentary majority, it could still be another week or so until all votes are tallied.

Attention is riveted on the "magic number" for Suu Kyi's party. The election commission's latest announcement Thursday showed the NLD needs just two more seats to reach the 329 it needs for a majority in the 664-member, two-house Parliament.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2

The number of seats the NLD party needs to reach a majority in Parliament



A vendor sells calendars with a portrait of Myanmar opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi in Yangon on Thursday. ROMEO GACAD/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

Charlie Hebdo needs 'new team,' survivor says

A surviving member of Charlie Hebdo's editorial staff says the satirical newspaper devastated by a terror attack on Jan. 7 needs a new team, but that the publication is more important than ever. Patrick Pelloux, a writer and doctor, said the newspaper needed people to help "rediscover the meaning of caricature."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Supreme Court upholds life sentence for captain

South Korea's Supreme Court on Thursday upheld a life sentence for the captain of a ferry that sank last year, killing more than 300 people. The court upheld a lower court that sentenced Lee Joon-seok, 70, to life imprisonment for charges that included homicide. The court ruled Lee committed homicide by "wilful negligence," concluding he fled his ship without giving an evacuation order, although, as captain, he is required by law to try to save his passengers.

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Smart gadgets move past fitness bracelets

TECHNOLOGY

Devices aim to cover every age and area of human health

After the smartphone and fitness bracelet, here comes the smart ring. And the smart pacifier. And smart rollator.

"Wellness" computers that monitor your pulse, temperature and other health indicators are becoming increasingly sophisticated and varied to cover every aspect — and age — of human life. Some products, like the ring by Finnish startup Ouraring, are specialized in optimizing physical training by tracking sleep patterns and physical activity. Others are looking to fit into health-care services struggling to cope with aging populations.

Health gadgets took the limelight at this week's Slush



Kari Kivela, head of design at Ouraring, promotes a "wellness" ring at Slush 2015 on Thursday. LEHTIKUVA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

fair, a gathering of technology startups that has drawn 800 investors and an estimated 15,000 participants worldwide.

Lasse Leppakorpi, the founder and CEO of Beddit, a startup specializing in sleep-monitoring equipment, says new gadgets will increasingly change the role of doctors to

becoming "consultants and experts" for people concerned about their well-being. "The focus of health care will shift from treating illnesses more toward responsibility of caring for one's health," he said at the Slush fair, featuring a record 1,700 startups.

The maker of the smart ring,



The focus of health care will shift from treating illnesses.

Lasse Leppakorpi

Ouraring, believes it has an advantage over companies providing only sleep-monitoring equipment, such as smart beds equipped with sensor straps under bed sheets. "Our rings monitor when you're asleep, when you're awake, if you're sitting, when you're on the move," said Kari Kivela, head of design at the Finnish company based in the city of Oulu, a former Nokia hub.

On Thursday, the company announced it had secured \$2.3 million US in funding, mainly from U.S. investors, on top of \$650,000 US raised in a Kickstarter campaign in September with more than 2,000 backers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK CITY

Tracking homeless seen as harassment

On an app, pins on a New York City map keep track of sightings of homelessness, accompanied by photos of people lying on sidewalks, slumped in doorways, sitting on curbs with shopping carts piled high with bags. Hashtags frame the scenes: "NeedsMedicalAid," "Encampment," "Aggressive Begging," "Violent."

On a similar Facebook page, residents of a Manhattan neighbourhood share pictures and complaints about people living on the streets, some half-naked. A website created by a police union posts pictures of

the homeless and vows, "We are watching you!"

Advocates for the homeless see such efforts as more harassment than help. Dave Giffen, the executive director of the Coalition for the Homeless, calls the initiatives "unethical and inhumane." But organizers say they are illustrating a pressing social problem. "People thought I was picking on the homeless," says Ed Mullins, who heads the police sergeants' union that maintains Peek-a-booNYC. "My question is, 'Well, what can you do better?'"

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

market minute

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	TSX 13,127.18 (-214.75)
	OIL \$41.75 US (-\$1.18)
	GOLD \$1,081.00 US (-\$3.90)

NATURAL GAS: \$2.260 US (+0.3¢)
DOW JONES: 17,448.07 (-254.15)

IN BRIEF

Coal industry hurting

Canada's coal-export market has taken a major hit in recent years, as prices have dropped from more than \$300 US a tonne in 2011 to less than \$90 US a tonne this quarter because of continued oversupply and slowing demand from China.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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PRO/CON

Should hospitals allow visitors 24/7?

Three Ottawa hospitals have ditched limits on visiting hours for patients' friends and families in an effort to promote more holistic health care and reduce isolation. But is bringing familiar faces from home into the hospital really the best way to heal?

YES: TLC from family is the best medicine

Being seriously ill is scary and lonely, but having a family member or trusted friend with you — outside of the typical afternoon visiting hours — can help. And allowing that is in line with the trend toward a more family-focused, patient-centred approach to health care. Family members also know more about the patient and their history than doctors or nurses ever could. They can pitch in with tasks like feeding and personal care, and they may be able to notice when something is off. According to the Canadian Foundation for Healthcare Improvement, patients whose loved ones are allowed to stay with them in hospital experience fewer medication errors and falls, shorter stays, fewer readmissions and a generally better experience and standard of care.

NO: Patients need peace and quiet

Visiting hours enforce a period of restful calm, especially during the night, to allow patients to sleep and heal. Hospital staff already have the discretion to allow visitors to stay when circumstances warrant it. But visiting hours allow them to effectively get interlopers to leave if they're being loud or inconsiderate. Unlimited visiting will disproportionately affect people who can't afford a private or semi-private room: Even quiet talking can disturb the sleep of someone who is in pain and in an unfamiliar environment. Certain units — such as maternity, children's wards, intensive care and palliative care — already routinely allow visitors around the clock. Finally, more people coming and going might mean more infections, and could pose security issues, especially at night when fewer staff are on duty.

Stop excusing sexism: Ordain women already



Michael Coren
For Metro

It's the last acceptable face of misogyny. I speak of conservative Christianity, principally the Roman Catholic Church and hard-line evangelical Protestants, who manage to routinely discriminate against women and still enjoy a status in society that would be denied any secular organization that acted in a similar manner.

I am utterly convinced that if women had been priests, the (sexual-abuse crisis) never would have developed.

The reality is that no matter how great their ability or suitability, no woman can ever be ordained as a priest or a minister in these churches and it's time we asked some serious questions and stopped allowing sexism to hide behind religion.

The Roman Catholic argument is that Jesus was a man, and as the prime role of the priest is to represent Christ at the Mass, no woman could fulfill the position. But Jesus was also Jewish, spoke Aramaic and was born of a virgin. Try as I might I have never found an Aramaic-speaking, Jewish priest born of a virgin serving mass in Canada. Perhaps I need to look further afield!

Seriously though, if this is the best it can do the Catholic Church is on pretty shaky ground. The central word here is "represent." Every Christian believes

that there is only one Jesus, but that someone can represent Him without resembling Him.

The irony is that Jesus didn't share such prejudice. He surrounded Himself with devout women, told His followers to revere His mother, and the first people to see the resurrected Christ were women — not initially believed by the frightened, faithless men they told.

Women not only played a central role in founding the church, but also in maintaining it, especially through the darkest times of ancient oppression. There were certainly women deacons and possibly female priests. But the patriarchy was at its strongest in medieval Europe and the role of Christian women was rapidly diminished.

Non-Catholic Christians who deny female ordination point to various scriptural statements concerning male

leadership and female subservience, but as with so much of the Bible, context and historical understanding are vital. Today many, perhaps most Protestant churches ordain women yet there is, alas, still resistance.

Nor is just about equality. As someone who has written extensively about the Catholic sexual-abuse crisis, I am utterly convinced that if women had been priests the horror would never have developed and certainly wouldn't have been hidden.

Christianity still has so much to offer the world, but it can only do so if it abandons outdated, ugly and irrelevant conventions.

Michael Coren is a writer, broadcaster and author of the forthcoming *Epiphany: A Christian's Change of Heart & Mind over Same-Sex Marriage*.

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

If anyone asked me what unites Canadians, I'd be stumped

Letters-to-the-editor pages in newspapers somehow still exist.

In a world suffocated by opinion (mine, yours, and both our dogs' on FB, Twitter, Insta, Reddit, article comments, YouTube comments), it seems a little quaint, no?

And yet there I was, reading the letters section of the National Post the other day. And boy, was that fun.

Charles in Nanaimo knows better than Keystone XL bigwigs that Obama always had it in for the pipeline.

Jack in Victoria suggests the end of all intersections, in favour of roundabouts, if the Liberals really want to invest in infrastructure.

Albert, also from Victoria, is wigged out about 25,000 Syrian refugees really getting a good vetting.

Osama in Calgary has some eloquent words of loyalty and support for Canadian soldiers.

Some letter-writers sound as nutty as the emails I often get. Some people sound sane. And there's actually a diversity of opinion. There are full sentences and complete attribution, including city of residence, and no Ayn Rand-inspired handles.

It's like, I dunno, a reflection of Canadians? A cross-section of opinion I would maybe see in other papers but definitely not in my various social media feeds.

There, I follow people who interest me, and while there's a

bit of political diversity, it's not much. Inflammatory (to me) opinions are at a minimum. Thus, according to the bulk of my digital newsfeeds, Canadians are pretty thrilled with Trudeau, and we'd be cool if the official opposition didn't show up.

Reading the letters felt like checking in with extended family. Still right-wingers out there, hey? Good to know.

The whole fear of immigrants and refugees, that's healthy? Okay, got it. And you went on a cruise, you say? Glad that was fun.

It reminded me of a dinner I had recently, where I got a little worked up. I'll admit, because my companion, an old family friend, really thinks Islam (and all religions) is evil.

I think I could have kept my voice down and saved the pub a few high-pitched broken wine glasses if only I'd had some reminder lately that not everyone agrees with me.

Shocking, I know.

And that people still very much and very deeply fear the "other." Still, to me, shocking.

I like getting a multi-paragraphed window into those right-wing others, and then see their full names in italics. It gives their views more weight. It makes them real.

It reminds me that if anyone asked me to describe what unites Canadians, I'd be stumped. Plus, these guys (they appear to all be men) are a hoot.

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Movies that mine the news

BASED ON A TRUE STORY

Some films stick to facts, others play hard and loose

Richard Crouse

For Metro Canada



The movies have looked to the news for inspiration almost since the first time film was projected on screens.

As far back as 1899, a film called Major Wilson's Last Stand dramatized scenes from the First and Second Matabele Wars, including the death of Major Allan Wilson and his men in Rhodesia in 1893.

The trend of reel life emulating real life continues this weekend with *The 33*, an Antonio Banderas film based on a famous mining accident. In 2010, 33 men spent 69 days trapped underground in a copper-gold mine located near Copiapó, Chile when a rock the size of the Empire State Building blocked their exit.

"I can't think of a better story than this one to bring to the screen," says producer Mike Medavoy.

The trick is getting the story right. Director Patricia Riggins worked with the miners, Medavoy and screenwriters to create a story that, according to everyone involved, features more fact than fiction.

That isn't always the case.



In 2010, thirty-three men spent sixty-nine days trapped underground in a copper-gold mine located near Copiapó, Chile. Their story became the inspiration for the new Antonio Banderas movie, *The 33*. HANDOUT

According to IMDb the Jim Sturgess movie *21* calls itself a "fact based" story about a group of MIT students who used a complicated card-counting system to fleece Las Vegas casinos for millions of dollars.

The bare bones of the story are true — blackjack was played and MIT students counted cards — but Hollywood diverged from reality when casting the leads. In truth the main players were mainly Asian-Americans, including ringleader Jeff Ma who consulted on the movie.

Ma called the controversy surrounding the casting of Sturgess and Kevin Spacey



MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Love the Coopers ★★
Spotlight ★★★★★
Heist ★
Entertainment ★★★

HOW RATING WORKS
★★★★★ SEE IT
★★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★★ UP TO YOU
★ SKIP IT

"over-blown," adding "I would have been a lot more insulted if they had chosen someone who was Japanese or Korean, just to have an Asian playing me."

The Michael Bay film *Pain & Gain* is listed as an action-comedy and stars Mark Wahlberg, Dwayne Johnson and Anthony Mackie certainly play up the

jokes. Everyone laughed, except for Marc Schiller, the real-life inspiration for the film's kidnap victim.

"It wasn't that funny when they tried to kill me," he said. "They did run me over with a car twice after trying to blow me up in the car. The way they tell it made it look like a comedy. You also gotta remember

that not only I went through this, but certain people were killed, so making these guys look like nice guys is atrocious."

Last year's Oscar winner *Whiplash* saw Miles Teller as a young drummer driven to extremes by a fanatical music teacher played by J.K. Simmons.

The movie draws parallels to the famous story of Jo Jones and Charlie Parker. The legend goes that Jones threw a cymbal at Parker's head after a lackluster solo, prompting the sax player to go away, practice for a year and return as one of the greatest musicians of the 20th century. Trouble is,

the story isn't true. A cymbal was let loose, but according to eyewitnesses it was dropped on the floor at Parker's feet and not at his head.

"Not attempted murder," wrote Richard Brody in the *New York Times*, "but rather musical snark."

How does Hollywood get away playing fast and loose with the facts? Black Mass director Scott Cooper says, "I don't think people come to narrative features for the facts, or for truth. I think you go to documentaries for that. What you do come to narrative features for is psychological truth, emotion and deep humanity."



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DALPLEX 

Double trouble: Partners on and off the screen

Angelina Jolie directed her husband Brad Pitt in her new film *By the Sea*. It's being compared to *Gigli*, the 2003 Ben Affleck-Jennifer Lopez flick that many critics called the Worst. Movie. Ever. But directing your significant other isn't always a recipe for cinematic catastrophe, as some of these examples show. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



PHOTOS: HANDOUT; TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE; THE CANADIAN PRESS

FARGO

Joel Coen + Frances McDormand

McDormand won an Academy Award for her performance in *Fargo* (1996). She and Coen met when she auditioned for *Blood Simple* in 1983 and married the next year. At the Rome Film Festival in October, reporters asked McDormand for the secret to a lasting relationship. "I think it's having different stories to tell each other," she said.



KNOCKED UP

Judd Apatow + Leslie Mann

Leslie Mann plays Paul Rudd's wife in *Knocked Up* (2007) and *This Is 40* (2012). The director told *Good Morning America* he felt "uncomfortable" watching his wife and Rudd... get into character. "I keep saying, 'Why do I keep writing sex scenes for Paul Rudd and my wife?' I should actually omit them from the script."



THE FOUNTAIN

Darren Aronofsky + Rachel Weisz

The director of *Requiem for a Dream* and *Black Swan*, and the Cambridge-educated actress announced their engagement in 2005 and had a son but never wed. In 2010, they split after nine years. Their film *The Fountain* (2006) divided critics.



HUSBANDS AND WIVES

Woody Allen + Mia Farrow

With only a few days left of shooting *Husbands and Wives* (1992), Farrow discovered that Allen was having an affair with her adopted daughter, Soon-Yi Previn. Producer Robert Greenhut said it took him "two or three days" to convince Farrow to come back to work. Before their split, Farrow and Allen worked on 13 films together.



Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's *The Social*.

THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN

'I'm ready to be wooed,' Simon said, as I readied my blade. 'But I'm not ready to go to the hospital so please don't miss any bones.'

Angelina Jolie Pitt and her husband Brad want you to know that *By the Sea*, which opens in select theatres Friday, is an art film — perhaps to distinguish it from the commercial hit in which they first appeared on screen together 10 years ago, *Mr. and Mrs. Smith*. Yes, both movies are about a married couple with troubles. But no longer are they playing assassins hired to kill each other. This time, she's a former dancer, he's a writer

suffering a block, and together, they've suffered through a traumatic event. They retreat to a seaside French hotel to brood, fight, cry, smoke, drink and spy on a honeymooning couple.

"I know some people are going to hate it," Jolie Pitt, who wrote, directed and stars in *By the Sea*, told the *New York Times*. "The plan was to make something together, with complete autonomy," Pitt told *V Magazine*, "in the footsteps

of Gena (Rowlands) and John (Cassavetes)."

Admirable, to be sure; but Rowlands and Cassavetes were never the most recognizable celebrities on Earth. Besides, whether you're making a movie — or making dinner — things rarely go according to plan. Initial reviews have been lukewarm.

I know the feeling: May, 2002. San Vito Lo Capo in Sicily. My boyfriend at the time and I spent three days

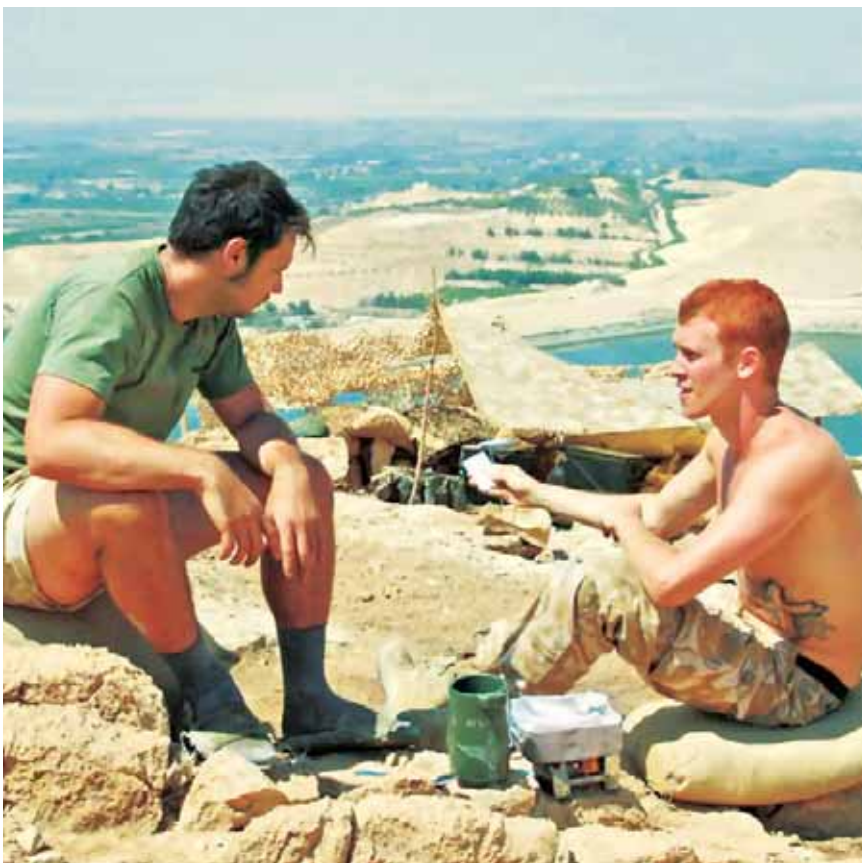
and nights by the sea during the last legs of our eight-year-long relationship. I suspect that we both knew it was coming to a close but neither of us was brave enough to admit it. There was no drama, no tears and only some brooding on my part: I read *Treasure Island* on our hotel's room little balcony at night under moonlight.

Besides the florescent blue of the sea, I also remember our meals at a local restaurant where for three nights we ate fish, make that a whole fish, which neither of us had dealt with before. Although I couldn't fix the relationship, or even identify what precisely went wrong, I took charge. "Give it here," I said, confi-

dently cutting the head and tail off, gently pulling it open, like a rare book and removing the bones. By the third night, I'd mastered the task.

Deboning whole fish became a flirting device for me. When Simon and I were courting a decade ago, I'd order it on dates to woo him. Although it clearly worked, I've only done it once at home — until Sunday night when I picked up two sea breams, orata in Italian, stuffed them with parsley, dill and lemon slices, covered them in olive oil and salt, and slapped them on the grill.

"I'm ready to be wooed," Simon said, as I readied my blade. "But I'm not ready to go to the hospital so please don't miss any bones."



Paul 'Tug' Hartley, a U.K. army medic who is depicted in Kilo Two Bravo, said the film is "99 per cent accurate." HANDOUT

Afghanistan war in graphic detail

AFGHANISTAN MISSION

UK soldier says film accurately retells his platoon's story

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada



You may have removed the Remembrance Day poppy from your lapel for another year but that doesn't mean you can't still honour the sacrifice of our war veterans.

"Whether you're Canadian or British, society doesn't pay enough attention," said former U.K. army medic Paul 'Tug' Hartley, whose life-saving actions are the basis of the acclaimed new film Kilo Two Bravo. "You see on the news a British soldier got killed (and then) they carry on. This film will give people insight into five hours of someone's life. That's all it was but look how impactful it is."

A vivid adaptation about

a small company of commandos who suddenly find themselves trying to escape a valley loaded with live land mines, Kilo Two Bravo isn't just (as Hartley describes) one of the "million stories they could have told" about the war in Afghanistan, it's the kind of nail-biting thriller that exhibits the true solidarity of soldiers.

"I remember saying I'm happy to sign up for this so long as you tell our story," recalled Hartley, who originally feared filmmakers would exploit the harrowing tale. "It's not a war movie. It's a movie about adversity and heroism. That could've happened in a car crash; it's just about a bunch of people who come together and do what they did."

But for the actor who recreates Hartley's acts of medical heroism on-screen, the

real life situation is not to be understated. In fact, even just pretending to be there was a stressful experience.

"The whole shoot was very intense — six days a week, 15 hours a day in 55-degree heat. All of those conditions affect you psychologically," admitted Game of Thrones star Mark Stanley of the chronologically-shot drama. "Was there time to decompress? I don't think so. I think we probably just drank too much on our days off."

Hartley doesn't diminish the actors' difficult job either. Having seen the film several times now, he insists that moviegoers are certainly in for an authentic experience.

"It's 99 per cent accurate," said Hartley. "The only way you were going to get that extra one per cent is if you had been there and bled with us."



"It's a sacrifice you've got to make but when you're there, those guys become your family and you bleed for them if you have to."

Hartley, on his time as the soldier

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A tribute to a soul legend

MUSIC ON FILM

Jeff Tweedy, Bonnie Raitt feature in doc about Staples

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada



Many people feel inspired after seeing their favorite musician in concert but very few are motivated enough to make a movie. However that's exactly what septuagenarian soul singer Mavis Staples did to Jessica Edwards.

"It sort of sounds a little bit hokey but it's true, I wanted to make the movie because of the way that Mavis made me feel," explained the filmmaker about her debut documentary, *Mavis!* "I never experienced anything like that in my life and I wanted to feel that way again (and) I wanted other people to feel the way that I felt when I was listening to her."

Mavis Staples has certainly been electrifying audiences

and deserving of a documentary ever since her and family band, The Staple Singers were crooning soul classics like *Respect Yourself* in the early '70s. Still performing at 76 years old, the entertainer and outspoken civil rights activist is even earning new fans thanks to collaborations with the likes of Wilco's Jeff Tweedy.

Indeed, her music has influenced a lot of artists. Although Edwards began the biography as a self-financed indie project, she soon discovered many celebrities wanted to speak about Staples. So Edwards took a less-is-more approach, favouring tributes from musicians with close personal connections —

"I wanted to make the movie because of the way that Mavis made me feel."

Filmmaker Jessica Edwards

like Tweedy or Bonnie Raitt.

"It could have ended up being a hundred people (in the film)," explained Edwards. "But I've never been a fan of the talking head interview that comes on and doesn't have a lot to contribute (so) I tried hard not to just go off the handle

and get Beyoncé and Jennifer Hudson or anybody I could get my hands on just because it made a good name."

Still, one superstar that Edwards did attempt to land was Prince (who worked on two of Staples's albums). While *The Purple One* turned down the invitation, Edwards insists he remained "very supportive" of the film.

"I don't think Prince has done an on-camera interview in decades," laughed Edwards. "(So) I had a big hunch an interview was going to be hard to get."

Mavis! is now playing in select theatres and available on iTunes.

MAVIS STAPLES' GREATEST HITS FOR OTHER PEOPLE

At least three classic Staple Singers songs are often associated with other artists:

• **The Last Time — The Rolling Stones**
The Staple Singers scored a hit with this traditional gospel song in 1955 but the ditty truly found success with a rock adaptation by

The Stones a decade later.

• **The Weight — The Band**
In 1968, Robbie Robertson-led roots-rock act The Band had a big hit singing "take a load off Annie" but The Staple Singers also highlighted the hymn on their first album for Stax Records the same year.

• **Respect Yourself — Bruce Willis**
While The Staple Singers had a big hit with this catchy single in '72, Bruce Willis made it his signature song when he took a stab at a music career while still slugging it out on TV's *Moonlighting* in the '80s.



Filmmaker Jessica Edwards was inspired to make *Mavis!* after seeing Mavis Staples live. COURTESY MARK POKEMPNER/FILM FIRST CO

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COMEDY

Love The Coopers

Director: Jesse Nelson
Starring: Olivia Wilde, Amanda Seyfried

When four generations of the Cooper family come together for their annual Christmas Eve celebration, a series of unexpected visitors and unlikely events turn the night upside down, leading them all towards a surprising rediscovery of family bonds.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 28% **Audience:** 94%



DRAMA/ROMANCE

By The Sea

Director: Angelina Jolie
Starring: Angelina Jolie, Brad Pitt

A married couple takes a vacation in France in the 1970s and find that their time in a sleepy seaside town, complete with a unique array of locals, strengthens their bond and reaffirms their marriage.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 29% **Audience:** 86%



DRAMA

The 33

Director: Patricia Riggen
Starring: Antonio Banderas, Rodrigo Santoro

The true story of the 2010 collapse of a Chilean mine and the rescue of the 33 miners who were trapped underground for 69 days.

ROTTEN TOMATOES™ SCORE

Critics: 41% **Audience:** 91%

Time to wind down the sentimentality

CASSETTE TAPES

Why a format that *should* be long-dead is still keeping it reel

Alan Cross
For Metro Canada



We need to have a conversation about the cassette. While it served us well — in the '80s, propelled by the boombox, the Walkman and car audio, the cassette was briefly the best-selling format for pre-recorded music — its time is over.

Eclipsed by CDs, CD burners and then digital music files, there's no reason why cassettes should still exist.

Yet there's a vocal group of music fans clamouring for a vinyl-like resurrection.

September had Cassette Store Day. There are dozens of cassette-only labels. Bloggers romanticize (fetishize?) the old-school cassette mixtape.

Clearly these people weren't around during the original days of the cassette: Mixtapes had to be recorded in real time; the tapes jammed; pre-recorded albums sounded awful and they the melted on the dashboard or ended up



under the seats of the car.
So why are cassettes still here?

1 Luddite hipsters: The inconvenience of cassettes trumps that of enjoying music on vinyl, demonstrat-

ing an even greater love for music. Or so they'd have us believe.

2 Curiosity: Blink-182 just announced that four of their biggest albums will be re-released on cassette.

These are just tchotchkes; wannabe collector's items.

3 Emerging markets: Cassettes do have their rugged side. They stand up well to the heat and dust of

places like Africa and India. Just don't let them sit in direct sunlight.

4 Japan: Yes, it's the land of the electronic gadget, but walk into any small store and you'll find packages of cassettes for sale.

Huge swaths of Japanese culture are very conservative and continue to hang on to the old ways. Hey, fax machines are still a thing over there.

5 Prison Releases: Enough people are incarcerated in the U.S. — more than 2.2 million as of 2013 — for convicts be a viable standalone music market.

CDs are forbidden in jails because they can be turned into shanks. MP3 players are allowed but without Internet access, they're useless. Vinyl? Hardly.

The only remaining option is the lowly cassette.

But you can't just use any type of cassette tape in prison. Companies like Fortress Audio and Duplication.ca offer blank cassettes made with clear shells (to prevent smuggling) and without any screws (they can be weaponized) specifically for prison use.

There are also services like Music 4 Immates that specialize in providing music for the incarcerated — on cassette, of course.

While most of us have moved on, the cassette will still be here for a while to come.

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Standing in line to see the Shia tonight

MOVIE MARATHON

Fans queue for hours to see LaBeouf's NYC theatre stunt

Why did actor Shia LaBeouf invite his fans to watch all the movies he's ever made with him during a three-day (and two-night) marathon at a Manhattan theatre? Or to watch him watching via livestream, witnessing the drama of him occasionally stroking his beard, sipping from a cup, or scratching his nose?

Probably the best explanation is: Just because.

And that's pretty much why Alex Martin, a senior at New York University, was waiting in line — for what was likely to be hours — to get inside.

"Just for the experience," Martin explained with a smile. "Just to say I did it. Not necessarily to watch a movie of Shia LaBeouf. You know, just to say I was here."

Although Martin, who's majoring in public health and sociology, used to love LaBeouf when he was a child actor, he and his friends waiting with him Wednesday afternoon clearly



For three days and two nights Shia LaBeouf set up in a Manhattan theatre for a marathon watching of all of his movies. He let fans in for free to join him. A live camera allowed people around the world to watch him as well. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

now see him as a perplexing, if interesting celebrity known for sometimes very erratic behaviour.

"Lots of alcohol," Martin noted.

Austin Reardon, also an NYU senior, was there "because I am

a big fan of his public persona over the years." He came to the Angelika Film Center, right by the university, because "it's entertaining to watch online, but I would like to be a part of it in person."

Though most of those waiting

in line, which stretched about a city block long, appeared to be college age, not everyone was. Attorney McKinney Brown, 26, had the day off from work and "thought it would be a fun experience."

He didn't know precisely

which movie he'd be seeing; his favourite, he said, is *Lawless*.

"Shia does all sorts of performance art," Brown said.

"I thought it would be a fun thing to do just to experience it."

LaBeouf basically took over the theatre, letting fans in for

free, but wasn't speaking to those who managed to get in,

according to people coming out. There were five-minute intermissions between films.

"He was completely silent," said Michelle Calicchio, a senior at Ramapo College, who arrived early in the morning and emerged from the theatre about 4 p.m., having spent most of

her time waiting (newcomers were admitted only when someone exited the theatre, and people could stay inside as long as they wanted.) She felt that LaBeouf was wordlessly critiquing his own work.

"He was in a deep stare," he said.

"He was so zoned in."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





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CHARITY

Clooney's cafe visit thrills Edinburgh

George Clooney took a break from Hollywood glitz to visit a small sandwich café that helps homeless people in Edinburgh.

And the 54-year-old actor was as nice as everyone thought he would be, according to Social Bite café spokesperson Stephen McCranor.

"Everyone thinks George Clooney is a great guy and then they meet him and they found out, it's true. He is a really good guy, a nice person," McCranor told the Star in a telephone interview on Thursday morning.

"George was a great sport. He talked to everyone," he said.

Clooney drew a large crowd of onlookers and reporters as he arrived Thursday in a chauffeur-driven car at the establishment in central Edinburgh, which employs and feeds the homeless.

Clooney praised the project and told reporters: "I like what they're doing, I think it's a very important cause. I think the idea that we can all participate in everyone's difficulties is really important."

Inside, the star handed over a £5 note — as well as about \$1,000 (U.S.) — to buy meals for the needy, and sampled a platter of sandwiches and a coffee himself. "He tried the food, he loved it, he made a donation and it was a terrific experience for everyone involved," McCranor said.

Clooney was invited to the café



On Thursday, George Clooney made a stop at Social Bite, a cafe for the homeless in Edinburgh. GETTY IMAGES

by its co-founder Josh Littlejohn, who also set up the Scottish Business Awards, which the actor will attend later Thursday.

Social Bite has two locations in Edinburgh, two in Glasgow and another in Aberdeen. McCranor said he hoped Clooney's visit would put a global spotlight on the non-profit business model, which they hope to expand into England and other countries soon.

The cafés offer what they call "suspended coffee and food" — customers can pay in advance for items on the menu, which can then be claimed by a homeless person. About 30 homeless people visit each shop daily, Social Bite says. Social Bite posted a photo of Clooney taking a selfie with staff, who were wearing green aprons that read, "Good Food Good Cause."

"Only two years ago I was living on the streets of Edinburgh with a heroin addiction and unable to even afford to eat," one of the staff, Sonny, 36, told *The Big Issue*, a magazine sold by homeless and long-term unemployed people across the U.K.

"Today I'm in full-time employment, have an amazing family and I just made lunch for one of the biggest stars on the planet."

By Thursday morning, the Clooney selfie had about 2,500 likes and had been shared almost 300 times on Facebook. People also took to social media to praise the actor for his visit.

"Fantastic, good on George Clooney," Sharon Fraser wrote on the Facebook photo. "Love this guy. What an upstanding human. Kudos," Ruth Gauld added.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR



Deep into Guatemala's emerald forest

TIKAL

Hike reveals ancient sites and curious creatures

Aurélie Resch
For Metro Canada

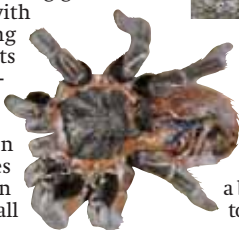
It all starts with a warning sign at the entrance. Located near a pond, it warns of the presence of crocodiles and tells visitors to keep away from the water. You are also advised that snakes, insects and animals hide in the forest and that it is preferable to stay on the path.

My Guatemalan guide picks a spider out of a hole on the ground, gently placing it in my hand. "She is not hungry. You're

OK," he tells me as I look at the fat, fuzzy tarantula sitting in my palm. I totally forget about the "OK" part as soon as the tarantula starts to walk her way along my arm.

I squirm and throw the poor thing onto a fellow journalist's shoulder. She starts to scream. Strange encounters abound in the archeological site of Tikal, Guatemala, enough to fill anyone's lust for adventure.

Visiting Tikal is like entering a lost world enveloped by a lush emerald forest. The trees and bushes create a gigantic web of green, with intertwining leaves, roots and branches. It is estimated the Guatemalan jungle hides 4,000 Mayan structures, all



The ruins of a temple in the jungles of Tikal. Above: The Lost World complex. PHOTOS BY AURÉLIE RESCH/FOR METRO

dating back to the eighth century.

The humidity (it's 35 C) makes the uphill hike a bit of a challenge. Walking toward the pre-Columbian

pyramids the quiet solitude is broken by some sudden loud shrieks.

The howler monkeys sitting at the top of the trees, and swinging from one branch to another,

are just greeting us as we enter the site. (We actually feel lucky since they aren't throwing their excrement at us, something they have been known to do). A bit further down we run into a dozen coatis — Central American raccoons — playing near the path.

In Tikal, I marvel at the acoustics of the Plaza of the Seven Temples, clapping my hands and listening to it echo off the walls of the structures. I am in awe at the two main sets of pyramids: the Lost World and the Great Plaza.

The former is the most ancient group of pyramids on the site and features 30 temples and pyramids built along astronomical alignments to solstices, equinoxes and certain important stars.

+ GETTING THERE

The National Park of Tikal is located in northern Guatemala in the Peten province. There are two airlines flying to Isla de Flores. At its Mundo Maya airport, you can contact a tour operator that can offer you transportation with a guide.

After climbing up one of the pyramids — some of them are 60 metres high — I take some time to enjoy the stunning view. The tops of temples emerge from the emerald jungle, birds fly out of the ceiba trees, and other visitors to the site look like ants scurrying around the base of the pyramid far below.

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ON THE MOVE

Orangeville, Ont., B.C. cities top planners' annual awards

Loren Christie
For Metro Canada



For the last five years, the Canadian Institute of Planners has hosted an annual contest called Great Places in Canada. The goal is to engage Canadians in sharing the places they love while highlighting the important work that is being done in building and rehabilitating our cities, towns and parks.

From great metropolises to tiny towns the 29 nominees provide a catalogue of travel destinations that are local treasures. The winners in the categories of Great Street, Great Neighbourhood and Great Public Space were revealed this past week.

Broadway in Orangeville, Ont., won the title of Great Street. "To be great, a street must be a destination in its



Clockwise from left, Broadway in Orangeville, Ont. (Great Street), Vancouver's West End, featuring the Inukshuk in English Bay (Great Neighbourhood), and Stuart Park in Kelowna, B.C. (Great Public Space). CONTRIBUTED

own right. Broadway fits the bill as an inviting place at the heart of Orangeville," says Ben Petch, contest juror.

Other highlights are the institutional uses that anchor the street and give it purpose and a

variety of restaurants, landscaping and patios, which enable people to enjoy the space. The historical buildings add character, and regular festivals and events ensure people experience the street.

Great Neighbourhood went to Vancouver's West End. The West End is easy, safe and inviting; residents walk and bike to work and can easily explore Vancouver's beaches, trails and the incredible Stanley Park.

"Transit access, traffic calming, street furniture, treed promenades, pocket parks and public spaces reflect a thoughtful approach to placemaking," says juror Jaspal Marwah. "Home to the city's LGBTQ

community, the West End's density is evenly matched by its diversity of residents, and by a strong commitment to creating an inclusive community that prioritizes affordable housing."

Stuart Park in Kelowna, B.C., was awarded Great Public Space. According to juror Kevin King, "Stuart Park bridges the re-emergence of Kelowna's downtown within the incredible natural setting of the Okanagan Valley. Energized by a civic plaza, the park comes alive at all seasons. Summer performances on the plaza are memorable, while free winter-time ice-skating under the clear Okanagan skies invites people in the winter months."

Recent enhancements to Stuart Park have made it a year-round destination. Its unique reflection of local character and natural environment and accessibility for multi-generational activities make it a great destination for travellers to the area.

Runners-up for Great Street, Great Neighbourhood and Great Public Space were Main Street in Wolfville, N.S., Quartier Petit Champlain in Quebec City, Que., and Lethbridge River Valley in Lethbridge, Alta.



FLORIDA

The Miami district where art, fashion and shopping collide

It was once was a pineapple farm. Then a rough, industrial neighbourhood overlooking a furniture district. Today, the Miami Design District is emerging as an upscale shopping and art mecca.

The neighbourhood is located just a few miles from downtown and South Beach. Its attractions include contemporary art installations, a parking garage that's an architectural head-turner, and storefront luxury shops from Hermes to Tom Ford, with a concentration of jewelry and timepiece brands.

"We're able to provide them with spaces that allow the brands to present the full range of their creative expression, from the architecture and design of their stores to the scope of their merchandise offering," said Craig Robins, a native Miami developer and CEO of the real estate company Dacra who is also credited with helping with the transformation of South Beach.

The Design District also becomes a major hub during Art Basel Miami in early December, when art takes over the city.

By the end of 2016, the

18-square-block neighbourhood will include more than 200 retailers from Christian Dior and Rag & Bone to Van Cleef & Arpels, art galleries, design showrooms and restaurants, as well as a boutique hotel and luxury residential condos and lofts.

Art installations

The late Buckminster Fuller designed the Fly's Eye Dome in 1965, calling it an "autonomous dwelling machine." The Neo-Futuristic architect's vision of a 24-foot fibreglass circular dome that could serve as a home has been brought to life at 140 NE 39th St. Overlooking the dome is a larger-than-life polyurethane foam-and-resin sculpture of the late architect Le Corbusier by the French artist Xavier Veilhan.

Nearby are two murals created by the collaborative studio 2x4 including "Jungle," an homage to the urban landscape of South Florida, with bright colours, plants and animals painted on the wall; and "Vortex," which creates an optical illusion with its black and white circular strokes.

FINDING IT

The Design District is located between two neighbourhoods, Wynwood/Buena Vista and Midtown heading toward the downtown Brickell area.



A sculpture of the late architect Le Corbusier by the French artist Xavier Veilhan appears across from the Fly's Eye Dome in the Miami Design District. WILFREDO LEE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Garages as art

Next to busy Interstate 95 is the City View Garage (enter on NE 38th Street between NE First Avenue and North Miami Avenue), its wavy gold- and titanium-coated steel panels shimmering against the Miami sun. On the north and south sides are murals by artist John Baldessari including a cinematic image of swimmers, beach ball and all.

Another garage (not yet completed) will be a seven-storey mixed-use building with six dif-

ferent facades: a wall of recycled car tops; another of reflective traffic barriers repurposed as dynamic screens interspersed with flower boxes; a theatrical composition of graphic cartoon characters mixed with ornate baroque details; a corner panel of interlocking volumes that evoke puzzle pieces; a series of cut-outs dubbed "the ant farm" which exposes what is going on inside; and a painted mural of a candle being burned at both ends. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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3 AIRBNB PROPERTIES WHERE THE FORCE RUNS STRONG

From an off-grid earthship carved into the desert of New Mexico to earth domes in California reminiscent of the planet Tatooine, Airbnb has collected Star Wars-inspired properties across its network that are located in a galaxy that's actually not so far away. **AFP**



1 Joshua Tree, California

Perhaps the most similar in likeness to Luke Skywalker's home planet Tatooine and the Lars homestead, the terracotta-colored **Sleep Pod Earth Domes** are set in the California desert and can sleep families of up to four. Dome walls are built using Earthbag technology that keep buildings cool in the summer and warm in winter.



2 Taos, New Mexico

For Star Wars fans who are also lovers of the earth, the **Brand New Studio Earthship** is a secluded, self-powered retreat in the New Mexico desert. The property is completely off-grid, catching its own rainwater and generating its own electricity thanks to solar panels. Moreover, thanks to being carved out of the New Mexico desert, the property also recalls Skywalker's home planet.



3 Khao Yai, Thailand

An aerial view of the **Modern Green Circular Dome** suggests a more illustrious past for the resort, as though it crash-landed in the middle of a Thai jungle forest and stayed. Like spokes on a wheel, individual, spherical pods jut out from a circular walkway and are covered with jungle overgrowth. Pods are clean and bright, furnished with beds, full bathrooms, TVs, communal dining room and pool.

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HOCKEY CANADA EVENT

Celebrity puckster event set for June

Some of hockey's brightest stars will be shining in Halifax this spring.

The Hockey Canada Foundation Celebrity Classic is coming to Nova Scotia's capital city, with the gala dinner taking place June 20 at the Cunard Centre downtown and golf tournament set for June 21 at the Glen Arbour Golf Course in Hammonds Plains.

"We're delighted that Hockey Canada has chosen Halifax to host this event," Premier Stephen McNeil said at a news

conference Thursday inside the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame.

"I know there will be a lasting legacy for Nova Scotia from this event."

All proceeds from Hockey Canada's largest annual fundraiser are funnelled back into minor hockey programs across the country, half of which will be directed to the Halifax region this year, according to a news release.

Halifax Mayor Mike Savage points out that Halifax is the first non-NHL city to host the hockey governing body's special yearly event.

It features all national teams that have won gold medals at IIHF world championships during the previous season.

The 13th annual event will also honour this year's Order of Hockey in Canada distinguished honourees, who will be announced in the new year.

KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE/HALIFAX



I know there will be a lasting legacy for Nova Scotia from this event.

Premier Stephen McNeil, speaking at the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame

IN BRIEF

Halifax-area golf course draws media attention

A new Halifax-area course has caught the attention of Golf Digest.

The magazine has named the Links at Brunello, located at Exit 3 off Highway 103, top third among best new golf courses in North America.

The course opened just six months ago in the Brunello Estates community.

"Every hole is as much fun as the hole before," Golf Digest reported this week. "A must play."

Cabot Cliffs in Inverness, Cape Breton, claimed top spot, while Trumps Links at Ferry Point in the Bronx, New York City, came in second place, according to a news release issued Thursday by the Links at Brunello.

KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE/METRO



Mooseheads defenceman Walter Flower chases Titan forward Antoine Morand in previous QMJHL action. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Herd falters in clutch

JUNIOR HOCKEY

Consistency lacking in loss to Acadie-Bathurst

Some of the Herd's top players were tearing up the ice Thursday night in Bathurst, N.B.

But despite two points apiece from captain Timo Meier, leading scorer Danny Moynihan and offensive defenceman Cavan Fitzgerald, the Halifax Mooseheads couldn't put the pieces together in time to solve the hosting Acadie-Bathurst Titan by the time the final buzzer sounded inside the

Centre régional K.C. Irving.

The Mooseheads fell 4-3 despite an early two-goal lead, with the Titan coming back in what was a competitive game between two well-matched teams at the bottom of Quebec Major Junior Hockey League standings.

Following Thursday's loss, Halifax is now 16th overall in the Q-league, as well as sixth and last place in the Maritimes Division. Acadie-Bathurst is, comparatively, in 15th overall and fifth place in the same division.

The Titan take a 3-2 series lead in their season series against the Mooseheads.

"We had two pretty solid periods," Halifax Mooseheads

THURSDAY in Bathurst

4	3
TITAN	HERD

head coach Dominique Ducharme said late Thursday night from the road.

"In the third, we came back with a push, (but) we couldn't answer well," Ducharme said. "We lost some battles (and) we made some mistakes that cost us, and that was it."

For the first 20 minutes, it looked like the Mooseheads may have the game in the bag.

Meier notched his first of two on the night, with help

from Moynihan, just over three minutes off the first faceoff.

The Swiss import added another early in the second period, this time on a power play, with blueliners Fitzgerald assisting.

But Acadie-Bathurst battled back, scoring four straight in the second and third periods to steal the lead from Halifax and make it a 4-2 game with less than eight minutes left in regulation.

Moynihan brought the Herd to within one on a power play at 15:35 in the third, with Fitzgerald setting it up, narrowing it up to 4-3. But that's all the Mooseheads could muster on their first of three games in three days.

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Moving on from an 8-1 nightmare

WORLD CUP QUALIFYING

Canucks seek revenge over Honduras for rout of 2012

More than three years on, the stench of the loss still lingers.

The Canadian men's soccer team travelled to Honduras in October 2012 needing only a draw to make the final round of qualifying for the World Cup in Brazil, but instead suffered an embarrassing 8-1 beating that crushed their hopes of making the tournament for the first time since the country's only appearance in 1986.

"It's something that I know a lot of us have been thinking about," midfielder Atiba Hutchinson said this week. "It hurt us a lot."

Canada has an opportunity to avenge that defeat when it opens the penultimate CONCACAF qualifying round for the 2018 World Cup against Honduras on Friday, the first match between the nations since the horror show in San Pedro Sula.

"It's a new team, a differ-

ent situation," said midfielder Julian de Guzman, who like Hutchinson was on the field for the Honduran debacle. "It's also another way of forgetting that result."

But while the stunning rout got most of the attention, what really sealed Canada's fate at this stage last time around were dropped points at home in a 0-0 tie with Honduras in Toronto. Had the Canadians won that game, the outcome four months later at Estadio Olimpico Metropolitan would have been meaningless. It's a lesson the players learned the hard way.

"Home games are very crucial for us," said de Guzman. "The last World Cup cycle, that's what killed us."

Will Johnson added that although winning in Vancouver ahead of a road game against El Salvador on Tuesday is vital, Canada is more capable of getting road results under head coach Benito Floro, who replaced Stephen Hart after the last failed qualifying campaign.

"You want to get the points in the bag as early as possible," said the midfielder. "History says (Friday) is a 'must-win' compared to how Canadian teams have done,



Honduran **Jerry Bengtson**, left, celebrates after scoring against Canada in the 8-1 rout during the Brazil 2014 FIFA World Cup CONCACAF qualifiers in 2012. ORLANDO SIERRA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

but we've also started to turn the corner a little bit and feel confident competing on the road. So it's an 'almost must-win'."

Part of that quiet swagger comes from a renewed attack that includes David (Junior) Hoi-

lett — who only recently committed to play for Canada — and Major League Soccer rookie of the year Cyle Larin.

Scoring has been the biggest issue in recent qualifying campaigns and it's hoped that Hoi-

lett, an attacking winger who plays for Queens Park Rangers in England's second tier, and Larin, a striker coming off a record-setting 17-goal season for Orlando City SC, can find the mark.

"It gives us a different dynam-

66

It's a new team, a different situation.

Canada's Julian de Guzman

ic, especially with Junior coming into the team," said Hutchinson. "He brings a lot going forward. He's the type of player that likes to get the ball and go at players and create chances."

Among the 12 countries left standing in the qualifying region that covers North and Central America and the Caribbean, Canada is ranked 102nd by FIFA and is in one of three four-team groups along with No. 24 Mexico, No. 94 El Salvador and No. 95 Honduras.

The two best teams in each round-robin pool advance to the final round of qualifying, with the top three getting places at the World Cup, while the fourth has to face an Asian country in a two-game playoff.

After the games on Friday and Tuesday, Canada plays Mexico home and away in March before visiting Honduras and hosting El Salvador in September.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SPEEDSKATING

Canada's best will be World Cup mavericks

Some of Canada's top speedskaters have broken away from the national team and will race the first World Cup of the season as independents.

Calgary's Kaylin Irvine and Regina's Kali Christ, who both represented Canada at the 2014 Winter Olympics, are among a group of speedskaters who have formed Team Crossover outside the national long-track team.

Both women qualified at fall trials to race at the World Cup starting Friday at the Olympic Oval in Calgary. Speed Skating Canada revamped its coaching system this season, which meant a coaching change and a shift to a different training group for Irvine and Christ.

"We both tried the new training environment for a couple of months," Irvine said. "Unfortu-

nately, it wasn't at the level where I thought I could reach my best potential.

"If I don't believe I have the right platform to be the best I can, it just got to the point where I wasn't motivated to go to the training.

"We voiced these concerns several times within the organization. My input as an athlete wasn't respected and a better alternative wasn't given to us."

Irvine, 25, and Christ, 24, each qualified to race three distances in Calgary. Winnipeg's Shannon Rempel, an Olympian in 2006 and 2010, is also member of Team Crossover and will compete in the 500 metres.

Irvine finished 18th in the 1,000 metres at the 2014 Sochi Olympics. Christ was 16th in the 1,500, 21st in the 1,000 and fifth with the women's pursuit team.

Speed Skating Canada assigned Irvine's former coach Xiuli Wang, who oversaw former Olympic champions Clara Hughes and Christine Nesbitt, and Christ's coach Todd McClements to groups of developmental speedskaters this season.



Kaylin Irvine
AFP/GETTY IMAGES

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

Mariners acquire reliever Benoit from San Diego for two minor leaguers

Mariners general manager Jerry Dipoto is wasting little time in addressing one of his team's most glaring needs.

Seattle added options to its bullpen Thursday, acquiring 38-year-old right-hander Joaquin Benoit from the San Diego Padres for two minor league prospects — right-handed pitcher Enyel De Los Santos and infielder Nelson Ward.

Dipoto saw Benoit pitch live in September. He raved about his change-up and was impressed with his ability to still throw in the mid-90s by season's end. "He'll throw it to the right and the left. He's been both durable and ... a good fit for our ballpark," the new Seattle GM said. Benoit was 6-5 with a 2.34 ERA in 67 appearances last season for San Diego. Opponents hit just .159 against Benoit.

He was especially tough on right-handed hitters, with a .144 average against him. It was the lowest of any NL pitcher who faced at least 100 batters.

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Ottawa Redblacks coach Rick Campbell has been nominated for CFL coach of the year. GETTY IMAGES

CFL AWARDS

Redblacks tandem in line for honours

There was a double nod to the Ottawa Redblacks as coach Rick Campbell and quarterback Henry Burris were named shortlisted for the CFL's end-of-year awards.

Campbell and Chris Jones of the Edmonton Eskimos are the finalists for the CFL's coach of the year award.

Jones led the Eskimos to a 14-4 record — tied with Calgary for the best in the CFL — to finish atop the West Division after beating the Stampeders in two of three regular-season meetings.

Ottawa (12-6) finished first in the East in its second year under Campbell after posting just two victories in its inaugural CFL campaign.

This year's top coach format is a change for the league.

Traditionally three finalists were named and the winner was honoured well after the Grey Cup game. Now the top coach will be unveiled with the other awards during Grey Cup week. The CFL has also secured a partnership with AGF, a Canadian-based investment management firm, to sponsor the coach-of-the-

year award.

Burris and Bo Levi Mitchell of the Calgary Stampeders are the finalists for the CFL's outstanding player award.

Burris was instrumental in leading Ottawa to a first-place finish in the East, registering a CFL-record 481 completions and league-high 5,693 passing yards.

Levi Mitchell, the MVP of last year's Grey Cup game, was second overall in passing (4,551) as Calgary (14-4) finished second in the West Division standings.

The other nominees include: linebackers Adam Bighill of the B.C. Lions and Simoni Lawrence of the Hamilton Tiger-

Cats (defensive player); Winnipeg Blue Bombers defensive lineman Jamaal Westerman and Ottawa Redblacks receiver Brad Sinopoli (Canadian); B.C.'s Jovan Olafioye and Ottawa's SirVincent Rogers (lineman); Calgary Stampeders kicker Rene Paredes and Hamilton kick-returner Brandon Banks (special-teams); and receivers Derel Walker of the Edmonton Eskimos and Vidal Hazelton of the Toronto Argonauts (rookie).

THE CANADIAN PRESS

481

Ottawa QB Henry Burris' record number of completions

Letourneau hopes trouble is brewing

UFC

Quebecer eyes big chance amid Rousey-mania Down Under

After carving open Jessica Penne's face in June, UFC strawweight champion Joanna Jedrzejczyk climbed the Octagon fence, looked at the camera and asked "Who's next?"

Canadian Valerie (Trouble) Letourneau answered the call.

On Saturday, the 115-pounder from Montreal enters the cage a 20-1 underdog against the hard-hitting Polish titleholder in the co-main event of UFC 193 in Melbourne, Australia.

(Rowdy) Ronda Rousey defends her bantamweight (135-pound) crown against former champion boxer Holly Holm in the Etihad Stadium main event. The pay-per-view show could set an attendance record for the UFC, surpassing the 55,724 who took in UFC 129 in April 2011 at Toronto's Rogers Centre.

Rousey (12-0) is also a 20-1 favourite to dispatch Holm (9-0), who is ranked seventh among bantamweight contenders. It's the sixth title defence for Rousey, a former Olympic judo bronze medalist who has become the face of the UFC.

Letourneau (8-3) is unfazed by her heavy underdog status.

"Most of the people won't even know who I am and (also) haven't seen my fights," she said. "I always feel like the public doesn't see fights like the fighters look at it.

"I'm not so surprised but I feel like I have the respect of Joanna. She knows what I'm capable of."

While Letourneau may not be a household name, she has been fighting professionally since 2007 and was a trailblazer among Quebec female fighters. She is ranked eighth among strawweights after winning all three of her previous UFC bouts.

"Finally the hard work paid off," she said after getting the title bid.

Some might say be careful what you wish for when it comes to fighting Jedrzejczyk, a former Muay Thai champion with world-class striking. After less than three rounds with the champion, a bloody Penne looked like someone had

taken a box-cutter to her face.

Jedrzejczyk (10-0) registered 126 significant strikes to Penne's 25. When she dethroned inaugural champion Carla Esparza at UFC 185 in March, she held a 53-4 edge.

The predatory Polish fighter also stuffed 27 of 28 takedown attempts in those two fights.

Still the 32-year-old Letourneau says her preparations have been ideal and that she feels no more pressure than any other fight.

Letourneau is coming off an upset decision win over

Maryna (Iron Lady) Moroz in August in Saskatoon. She floored the Ukrainian fighter in the first round,

was wobbling in the second but survived and took the fight to the ground in the third in a gritty performance.

The Canadian was unranked while the previously unbeaten Moroz was ranked eighth going into the fight. Injuries have interrupted Letourneau's career in the past.

After a December 2007 loss to fellow Canadian Alexis Davis, she fought just once in 40 months due to a broken hand, concussion and two shoulder surgeries.

Still Letourneau has won seven of her last eight — she was beaten by Claudia Gadelha in 2012 — after losing two of her first three pro fights (against Davis and fellow Canadian Sarah Kaufman).

A former bantamweight, the five-foot-seven Quebecer has a one-inch height and three-inch reach advantage over Jedrzejczyk.

Letourneau and daughter Gabrielle headed south two years ago to train at American Top Team in Florida. She had spent 10 years training at Montreal's Tristar Gym, eventually leaving because she was the only female pro fighter there and thought she needed new surroundings.

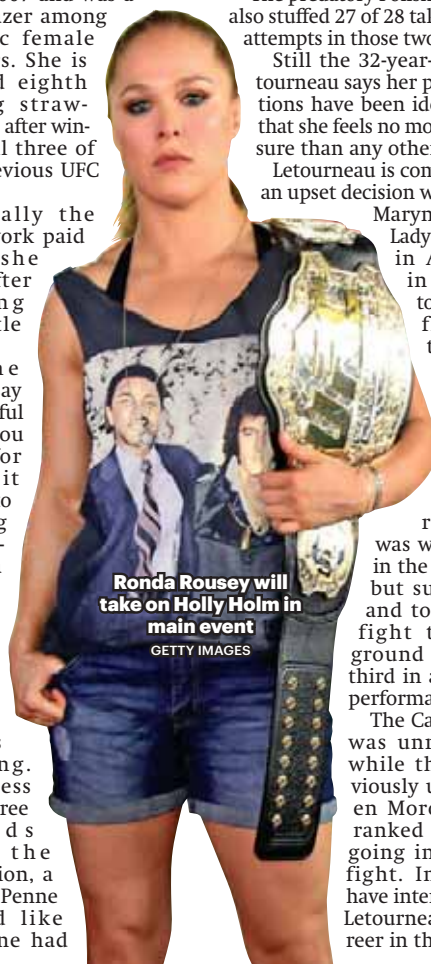
The Australian stadium show originally was to have featured welterweight champion (Ruthless) Robbie Lawler and Carlos (The Natural Born Killer) Condit. The UFC shifted Rousey-Holm to the main event when Lawler was injured.

Lawler and Condit are now the main event of UFC 195 on Jan. 2 in Las Vegas.

Jedrzejczyk was originally slated to fight Gadelha, then the No. 1 contender, at UFC 195 but Letourneau was summoned after Gadelha injured her hand and their fight was added to the Australian show.

The Melbourne card actually takes place Sunday in Australia but will air live Saturday night in North America.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Ronda Rousey will take on Holly Holm in main event
GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

Russia insist there will be no boycott of Rio Olympics

Russia has no intention of boycotting the Olympics. Russian Sports Minister Vitaly Mutko, speaking to The Associated Press on Thursday in a telephone interview, said there will "not in any case ... never" be a boycott.

The governing body of track and field is expected to rule Friday on whether to suspend Russia from competition because of the country's doping scandal. That could be the first step in excluding Russia's track and field team from the

Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. "Russia is against a boycott. Russia is against political interference in sport," Mutko said. "Understand that Russia is a dependable partner of the international Olympic movement."

Three days after a report commissioned by the World Anti-Doping Agency accused Russia of state-sponsored doping, Mutko also appealed for Russia's track team to be allowed to compete, arguing that a blanket ban on competitors would unfairly punish clean athletes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WORLD CUP OF HOCKEY

Team Europe's inside men plot shocker

“

I'd love to beat Canada...

Sean Burke

Some top Canadians will be tasked with trying to beat Canada at next year's World Cup of Hockey. In addition to head coach Ralph Krueger, Team Europe has named Paul Maurice to its coaching staff and Sean Burke and Lorne Henning to its scouting staff. "I'd love to beat Canada because in this tournament they're going to be the favourite and we want to win the tournament," Burke said. "So that would be incredibly exciting."

Along with Burke and Henning, the scouting staff includes American Ricky Olczyk, Slovak Peter Bondra and Czech Vaclav Nedomansky. That group, serving

under German president Franz Reindl and Slovak general manager Miroslav Satan, is charged with putting together the tournament's most diverse team.

Krueger is from Winnipeg, where Maurice is currently coaching the Jets. Maurice was Canada's assistant coach at the 2014 world championships.

They'll be working with play-

ers from Germany, Austria, Norway, Denmark, Slovenia, Latvia and maybe even France and Belarus at the World Cup.

"We don't have any country that will be super strong on this team," Satan said. "We'll go by quality, not nationality."

That's certainly the case for the management, scouting and coaching staffs. Reindl said he was confident in the group to uphold Team Europe's "mission to survive."

Team Europe will play in Group A at the World Cup next fall along with Canada, the U.S. and the Czech Republic.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Jets coach Paul Maurice will also help out Team Europe.
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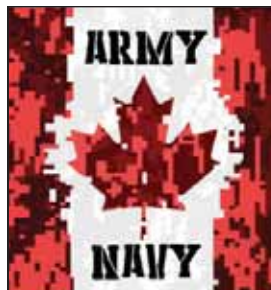


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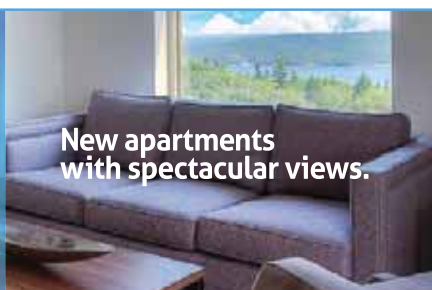
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Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

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- 3 hard boiled eggs
 - 2 avocados, pitted
 - 1 Tbsp Greek yogurt
 - 1 tsp lemon juice
 - 2 Tbsp chives, chopped fine
 - 1/4 tsp Dijon mustard
 - Salt and pepper to taste
 - 4 to 6 slices whole grain bread

Directions

1. Egg boiling trick: place eggs in cold water and put pot over medium high heat. Bring the water to a boil, place a lid on pot, take off the heat and set your timer to 12 minutes.
2. Rinse the eggs under cold water to cool them down enough to peel. Remove the shells. Roughly chop the boiled eggs.
3. In a large bowl, mash your ripe avocados, breaking them down into chunks. Add the chopped eggs, lemon juice, chives, Dijon and give it all a good mix. Salt and pepper to taste.
4. Spread your mixture on sandwich bread and add anything else you like — tomatoes, lettuce, sliced cucumber.

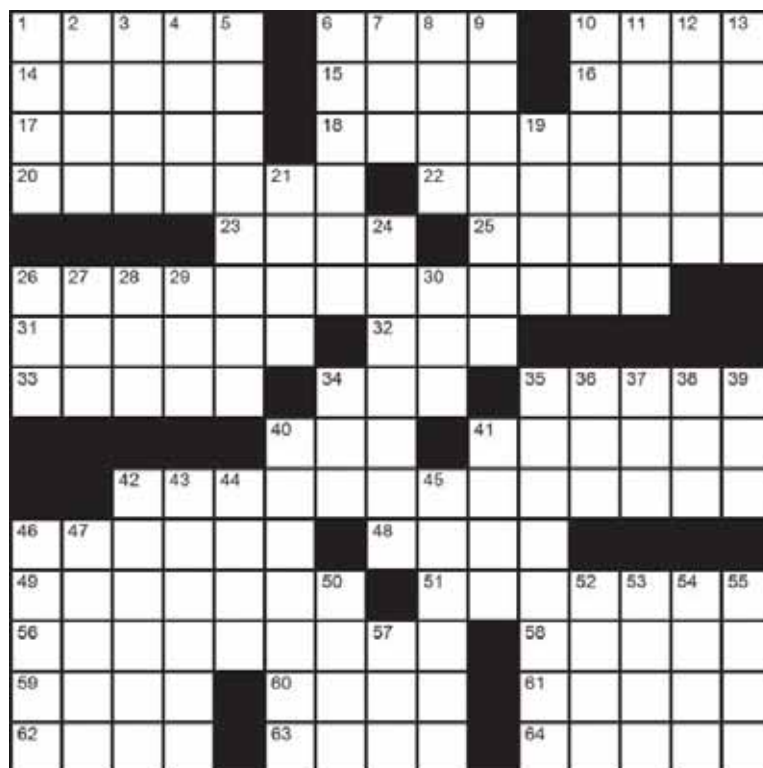
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ACROSS

1. Flavouring in Greek aperitif Ouzo
6. Shake off
10. Flippant
14. Jesters
15. Auth. unknown
16. Cheese variety
17. House's loft area
18. Where there is a tradition in Ontario of having a motorcycle rally; 2 wds. (More at #42-Across!)
20. Adjust again
22. Ancient three-levels-of-oars Mediterranean ship
23. Winnie-the-Who?
25. Admission
26. Finely-fitted or furnished
31. Bypasses
32. Word: French
33. "Beau _" (1939) starring Gary Cooper
34. Big load, variantly
35. Ada's love in "Cold Mountain" (2003)
40. Grass appendage
41. Paradise
42. #18-Across' biker event takes place each _ _ _ (Superstition!)
46. Nike logo
48. Shakespeare... The Tragedy of Othello, the _ of Venice
49. Collaborator
51. Not deep
56. Big bird of the sea



58. Greyish-brown
59. "SCTV" bit
60. Duellist's need
61. Acclamation
62. Built
63. Meadow's morning moisturizers
64. Some computers

DOWN

1. Way off in the distance, posh-style
2. Memo
3. 9th Greek alphabet letter
4. Dropped in standings
5. Fun adventure

6. Electronics store purchase
7. Religious song: "Lead _ _ King Eternal"
8. Variety
9. Signed-up competitor
10. Sensation felt sky-

- rocketing in space
11. Made the riverbanks resistant to rising waters
12. Articles
13. Unmasks
19. Word meanings reference book, briefly

21. Bursts the balloons
24. Same-sounding word as another word, but with a different meaning (Two vs. Too)
26. Fido's flick of the tail
27. Nightfall
28. _ Angeles
29. Candle with a flame status
30. 'Opt' suffix
34. Former plane letters
35. Emphasized an important point
36. Place atop the Billboard chart, _ _
37. Music file format
38. Small island
39. Thumbs-down utterance
40. Stuck to the rules
41. "Here comes trouble!"
42. Prohibit
43. Go around
44. " _ It Romantic" by Ella Fitzgerald
45. Shuffles the garden salad
46. Muscle cramp
47. _ _-thon (Fund-raising event)
50. Anchor's attachment
52. Needlework creation
53. Period of calmness
54. Iridescent gem
55. Soaks
57. Hem pants, for instance

★ IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
You are hugely ambitious and you don't mind when the pressure is on — in fact you thrive on it. What happens next will give you the opportunity to prove yourself. Be amazing.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
No matter how many times you've failed in the past you'll make up for it simply because you believe in yourself and refuse to give up. Your staying power is legendary and guarantees success.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You have been too cautious of late but as from today you will go to the other extreme and take risks left, right and centre. Whether or not you are right to do so remains to be seen.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You have been generous lately, both with your time and money, but now you have to put your own needs first. The planets warn that you must not give to others what you need for yourself.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
If you have fallen behind in your workload you must make an effort to catch up or revise your schedule so that you are not under so much pressure. Are the deadlines necessary?

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If your efforts are yielding ever smaller results it is a sure sign you have pushed yourself too hard and need to slow down. Strike a balance between your work and your wellbeing.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Your self-belief may have taken a hammering but soon you will be back to your best. However, don't start believing that nothing can go wrong. Over-confidence could lead to disaster.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You are more sensitive than people imagine and what happens today will affect you deeply. Put on a brave face and make it appear as if you are in full control but open up to someone you trust as well.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may not have been your usual sunny self but today's link between Mercury, planet of the mind, and Jupiter, your ruler, will inspire you.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Spend less time thinking about what might go wrong and more time enjoying what's going right. Something will happen to make sure you realize just how lucky you are.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You have put up with a lot recently and although there were times you almost gave up you kept on battling. Soon you will get your reward.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
You will come to the aid of someone in need today and it will do you both a lot of good. Selfless actions always come back to the person who makes them and some day someone will help you when you most need assistance.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

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COMPREHENSIVE LIMITED WARRANTY** ON ALL HYUNDAI MODELS

THE ALL-NEW 2016 TUCSON 2.0L FWD

HWY: 9.3L/100 KM
CITY: 11.6L/100 KM*



WHEN EQUIPPED WITH
AVAILABLE AUTONOMOUS
EMERGENCY BRAKING (AEB).
For more information,
visit www.iihs.org



1.6T Ultimate AWD model shown*

✓ REARVIEW CAMERA

✓ BLUETOOTH®
HANDS-FREE PHONE SYSTEM

✓ HEATED FRONT SEATS

✓ AUTOMATIC HEADLIGHTS
WITH LED DAYTIME RUNNING LIGHTS

LEASE FOR ONLY \$138 BIWEEKLY

THAT'S LIKE PAYING
\$69
WEEKLY

AT
1.49%

FOR
60
MONTHS WITH
\$0 DOWN^R

2016 SANTA FE SPORT

HWY: 9.7L/100 KM
CITY: 12.9L/100 KM*



2.0T Limited model shown*

✓ 17" ALLOY WHEELS

✓ 4-WAY ADJUSTABLE
DRIVER'S SEAT
WITH 2-WAY POWER LUMBAR SUPPORT

✓ HEATED FRONT SEATS

✓ 40/20/40
SPLIT-FOLDING SECOND-ROW SEATS

\$2,000
IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTS^Q

PLUS GET
0%
FINANCING*

FOR
84
MONTHS

ON ALL SANTA FE SPORT MODELS

Visit HyundaiCanada.com for details on our entire line-up!

H-Factor

THIS IS HOW WE DO IT.



HYUNDAI NEW THINKING.
NEW POSSIBILITIES.
HyundaiCanada.com



SEE YOUR DEALER
FOR DETAILS
<http://www.hyundaicanada.com/my1st>

**5 YEAR
WARRANTY**

5-year/100,000 km Comprehensive Limited Warranty**
5-year/100,000 km Powertrain Warranty
5-year/100,000 km Emission Warranty
5-year/Unlimited km 24 Hour Roadside Assistance



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